Entered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

JOHN BULL

Vol. XXX. No. 811. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1921. TWOPENCE.

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

Morris's EGYPTIAN 'ELITE' Cigarettes

Have all the subtlety & charm of cigarette tobacco manufactured in Egypt.

20 for 1/-

P. Morris & Sons, Ltd., London.

ONE-WEEK £1,000 for Yen MUST BE WON

"JOHN BULL'S" GREAT XMAS GIFT TO YOU!

YOUR LAST CHANCE to get this 10/6 "JOHN BULL" PEN FREE

This is the "J.B." Standard Model which is given FREE to every purchaser of a "King of Pens." Over two millions of these famous pens have been sold. Every pen is guaranteed by "John Bull."

A touch of the lever and the pen is filled.

THIS is the "John Bull" Self-Filling Model Fountain Pen—handcut—beautifully chased—safety cap—solid 14-ct. Gold Nib—price 8/9—equal to a 17/6 pen.

YOUR MONEY REFUNDED IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED.

Better than pens at double the price.

3, Artivian Road, Bayswater, W 2.

"I recently purchased two pens on your Special Coupon for a total of 8/9. Having given both these pens a really good trial, I can now with all sincerity say they are the best value I have ever obtained for such a small outlay. I have paid double for much-advertised pens, and found them inferior in general appearance and manufacture to yours." (Signed) D. HIGGINS

WE WILL PAY A GUINEA A DAY

As a personal Christmas Present we will pay a guinea a day for the best post-card received each morning up to December 24th acknowledging receipt of the 2 pens.

Pocket Clips 3d. extra with each pen.

Here is a genuine opportunity of securing a half-guinea pen FREE for yourself this Christmas. Don't miss it—our offer closes in 10 days.

As a special Yuletide offer *only*, we are sending one of our world-famous standard model half-guinea pens to every purchaser of our new 8/9 lever self-filling model. This pen is, in itself, a wonderful bargain, being equal in every respect *to other pens being sold for* 17/6. We guarantee it for 10 years, and will gladly refund your money should you wish us to do so.

"John Bull's" special offer provides a simple solution to your gift problem. A "John Bull" Pen makes a friend for life.

All you have to do is to post the Coupon below together with P.O. for 8/9 (plus 3d. for postage and insurance), and the two pens will be yours by return.

The Coupon is available for 10 days ONLY. This is your last chance to secure the FREE GIFT so fill in the coupon to-day.

CATCH THE NEXT POST!

This offer is available at all the London "John Bull" Pen Depots

FREE GIFT COUPON. *This Coupon is available for* **10 DAYS ONLY**

To the Manager,
"John Bull" Pen Department,
87, Long Acre, London, W.C. 2

I enclose Cheque/P.O. for 8/9, plus 3d. for postage and insurance.

Please send me by Insured Post a "John Bull" Lever Self-filling Model Pen together with FREE Xmas Gift of Standard Model Pen. I require Fine, Medium or Broad Nibs. (Strike out words not applicable.)

Name*.....

Address.....

.....

Date.....

* Write in PRINTED LETTERS.

J.B. 17.12.21.

GREAT BLANKET SENSATION
Genuine WITNEY Wool Blankets

For the first time in the history of the WITNEY BLANKET trade have real WITNEY Wool Blankets been advertised at 20/- per pair. These World-famed Blankets are generally sold at so much per Blanket, being the most expensive and best Blankets in the world. If you have never slept under WITNEY BLANKETS you do not know the soft, downy comfort—the warmth—the perfect pleasure that Blankets can give you.

If you once buy **WITNEY BLANKETS** you will never use any other kind. These wonderful Blankets are famous all over the world for their supreme excellence.

AT ONLY 20/- PER PAIR

TWO PAIRS SENT CARRIAGE PAID FOR 40/-

750 PAIRS only will be sold at the special advertising price of only 20/- per pair (postage 1/3 extra) until our stock is gone. Every pair double-bed size and well worth two guineas. Every pair labelled and guaranteed **GENUINE WITNEY BLANKETS.**

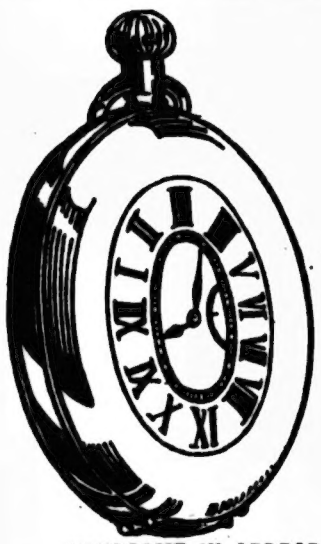
Send 21/3 without delay for this exceptional bargain.

Treasury notes must be sent by registered post. Postal Orders and Cheques should be crossed (& Co.) and made payable to the Universal Stores, Ltd.

The Universal Stores (Manchester) Ltd.

14, New Cannon Street, (J.B. 4), MANCHESTER

A MARVELLOUS WATCH BARGAIN
A Facsimile Ten-Guinea Demi-Hunter Watch



FOR ONLY 1 GUINEA

An amazing WATCH offer, eclipsing any other Bargain ever introduced to the public, is now offered by C. WILSON, WATCH FACTOR, who has made a wonderful purchase by auction of

5,000 HIGH-CLASS GOLD-CASED DEMI-HUNTER WATCHES,

and instead of selling them to the trade on the customary long credit, has decided to sell them singly, direct to the public, for prompt cash **at the astonishing low advertising price of**

21/- each, post paid.

2,000 have already been sold

HANDSOME IN APPEARANCE.
RELIABLE TIMEKEEPER. A PERFECT MODEL.

Each watch has a **beautiful jewelled movement**, patent keyless action, compensation balance, non-magnetic tempered spring, clear sunlight dial in stout, **highly-finished demi-hunter case**, with dust-proof dome. **Guaranteed perfect timekeeper.** Every watch tested and **warranted for five years.** These magnificent watches are an exact facsimile of the finest models in the world, and if bought from a shop could not be purchased under £3 3s. 0d. A handsomer watch has yet to be invented. A watch that any gentleman would be proud to wear.

Small illustration showing watch open.

Seize this unusual opportunity and send for this marvellous watch bargain by return of post. Money refunded if dissatisfied.

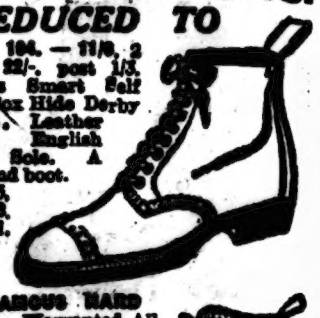
C. WILSON, WATCH FACTOR, 6, ANSDELL ST., SHIRLEY RD., J.B.1, MANCHESTER

BIG SALE OF THE FAMOUS "WONPROF" LADIES' & GENT.'S FOOTWEAR
20,000 PAIRS AT BIG REDUCTIONS.
ALL GENT.'S BOOTS REDUCED TO

Model 182.—11/6, 2 pairs 22/-, post 1/3. Gent.'s Smart City Boot, made in fine Box Leather with Patent Cap, warranted English Leather Sole. Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

11/6 Postage 1/3.

TWO PAIRS 22/- Postage 1/3



Model 184.—11/6, 2 pairs 22/-, post 1/3. Gent.'s Smart Self Cap, Box Hide Derby Boot. Leather lined, English Bend Sole. A grand boot. Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

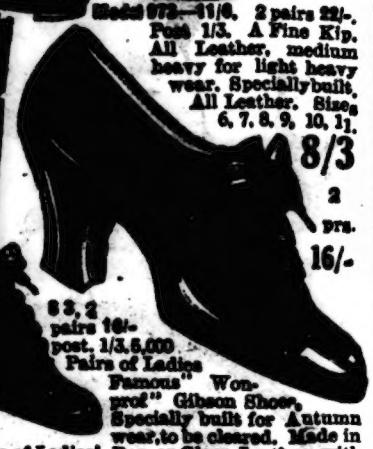
OUR FAMOUS HARD WEARER. Warranted All Leather Sprigged Soles. Genuine light heavy. 11/6, 2 pairs 22/-, post 1/3. Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

Model 681. 11/6, 2 pairs 22/-. Post 1/3. Genuine Army Solid Leather Double Soles. Sizes 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

Model 978.—11/6. 2 pairs 22/-. Post 1/3. A Fine Kip. All Leather, medium heavy for light heavy wear. Specially built. All Leather. Sizes 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

8/3, 2 pairs 16/-, postage 1/3. 5,000 Pairs of Fine Glace Cavalier Shoes, large Tongue and Buckle. Solid Leather Soles for Autumn wear. 8/3

2 pairs 16/- Post. 1/3 Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.



8/3 2 prs. **16/-**

8/3, 2 pairs 16/- post. 1/3. 5,000 Pairs of Ladies Famous "Wonprof" Gibson Shoes, Specially built for Autumn wear, to be cleared. Made in Box or Glace Leather, with or without Patent Cap. 8/3, 2 pairs 16/-, post 1/3. Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

SALE LIST FREE.

11/11, 2 pairs 23/-. 5,000 Pairs of Ladies' Handsome Real Glace Kid 10 in. High Leg Boots. Reduced from 20/- to 11/11, 2 pairs 23/-, post 1/3. Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

The above are Genuine Bargains and only obtainable from us. Money returned if not delighted.

CEDAR SHOE CO., "WONPROF" WORKS, LEICESTER.

The nicest "refresher" for your party is

STONE'S GINGER WINE

—a splendid tonic and digestive.

Famous since 1740.

In bottles from Licensed Grocers, etc., and sold by the glass at all Bars, Buffets, Theatres, etc.

Be sure you get STONE'S—Look for the name on the LABEL.

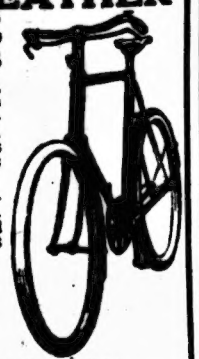
If any difficulty in obtaining, write Stone's Ginger Wine, Finsbury, London, E.C.1.

PARENTS—
Protect your Children

Don't let your children "go out into the World" ignorant of the terrible dangers of Venereal Disease. Free information can be obtained from the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, 34A, Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, Southampton Row London, W.C. 1.

Everyone should possess the "Welfare Library" (7 books on social subjects. 1/3 post free.

AN ALL-WEATHER BICYCLE
for £4:17:6



A sturdy "All-Weather" cycle, made in the best factories (B.S.A. & R.E.) for the Government; thoroughly overhauled, and guaranteed to be in perfect condition, will be sent you direct for £4:17:6.

Get this splendid winter knock-about, and save pounds in fares. Easy payments. Money returned if not satisfied. Write or call at 138, Gray's Inn Road.

Hearn CYCLE CO LIMITED.

Dept. V., 138, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1.

JOHN BULL

"Here shall the Press the People's right maintain,
Unawed by influence and unbribed by gain."—*Joseph Story.*

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"The hope of all who suffer,
The dread of all who wrong."
Whittier.

Vol. XXX. No 811. Week ending Saturday, December 17th, 1921. Twopence.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The Irish Settlement.

Although we have every hope that the common sense of Mr. de Valera and his friends will prevent the wrecking of the proposed settlement, we are bound to warn our readers that we are not yet quite out of the wood. In any case, as was pointed out by us in *Sunday Illustrated*, the process of blending the two distinct Irelands will be a matter of years, and we must be prepared for occasional hitches. However, it is a great experiment, and we can only pray for its success.

Holty-Tolty!

We have great respect for our good friend Colonel Craig, the Ulster Prime Minister, but he must really take a little truer personal perspective of the situation. To attribute the prospect of Irish peace jointly to the Divine Will and to the loyalty of the Irish people *to himself*, is rather a strong order—to say nothing of the castigation administered to our own Lord Chancellor for daring to question the wisdom of any act of the Northern Parliament. However, we have no doubt that the gallant Colonel will find his feet in time.

The General Election.

According to the *Daily Mirror*, Mr. Lloyd George has definitely decided to dissolve Parliament before the end of January. According to the *Daily Mail*," there is no intention whatever on the part of the Government of having a General Election for some time to come." So now you know all about it!

Old Age Pensions.

Surely these and war allowances should be the last thing to be attacked by the economy axe. As we pointed out during recent by-elections, "Economy without Exception" is a dangerous cry.

Fading Fashions.

According to our esteemed contemporary, the *Daily News*," Lloyd George and Bottomley, the heroes of the War period now so incredibly remote," are now amongst the "fading fashions." Speaking for ourselves, we wish the new fashion would alter the size of our waistcoat.

Greece and Turkey.

Lord Curzon, our Foreign Minister, suggests a conference in Paris with the French and Italian representatives to consider, amongst other things, " the question of mediation in the Turco-Greek conflict." So far, so good—but in the meantime we ought to hand over to Greece the five and a half millions due to her under the British Guarantee.

The French Bluebeard.

There is no atom of doubt about the guilt of the man Landru—whose head, after it has fallen into the guillotine bucket, ought to be scientifically examined. He is one of those freaks of creation which connect civilised beings with the lowest orders of life.

False Sentiment.

We are assuming that the sentence of the Court will be carried out—although, for some mystic reason, the jury, having found the man guilty of nearly a dozen cold, callous and premeditated murders, have actually recommended him to mercy! This would appear to be one of the things which they do *not* " do better in France."

ONE—WEEK
FOOTBALL PRIZE
£1,000
FOR ONLY TEN.
Fill up the Free Football Coupon on page iii of Cover.

Sunday's Newest Paper.

The *Sunday Sports Telegram* has thoroughly caught on. There has long been a need for a journal giving all week-end sporting intelligence—in no way confined to mere racing matters—and our latest contemporary has supplied the want.

Poor Pearson.

The news of the tragic death of our old friend Sir Arthur Pearson came as a terrible shock. Upon more than one occasion we had warned him of the dangers he was running, but his answer was always—" I must set an example of independence to my blind comrades." We remember very well how the same splendid courage was displayed when, in company with Mr. Winston Churchill, we dined with him shortly before his sight finally failed. Our blind heroes have, indeed, lost a friend.

Malicious Magistrates.

Our recent reference to the immunity of all advocates from any legal liability for whatever they may say in Court—however malicious or irrelevant—has led to several enquiries as to whether a similar privilege extends to the Magisterial Bench. Such, however, is not the case—a Magistrate who acts maliciously and improperly being liable to indictment at the instance of the Attorney General, or to an action by the aggrieved party. It has been our business recently to look this branch of the law up very thoroughly.

Licensing Justices.

Surely it should be a rule that neither licence-holders nor persons interested in temperance movements or enterprises should be eligible to sit on Licensing Benches. What is sauce for the goose in such a case should undoubtedly be sauce for the gander.

Admiral Sueter's Plan.

That was a fine plea put forward in a recent article by Admiral Sueter, M.P., for a United Defence Ministry controlling all branches of the fighting forces. It is one of the best examples of Business Government which we have come across for many a day.

Not "Peculiar."

" Doctors do not know as much as they pretend to know," said a solicitor in Westminster County Court. Out of our extensive legal experience we ask: " Do lawyers?" And out of our still vaster experience of life we will even venture the query: " Does anybody?"

An Indian Railway Growl.

We have received a strong appeal from what are called the Uncovenanted Railway Servants of India, to do our best to secure them the restitution of the right of a free passage home upon retiring. This was always the custom in the past, and the abolition of the privilege seems an act of parsimony.

Winston, Second.

Last week we commented on the fact that, with the lowering clouds of the Irish crisis, Lord Birkenhead was first to take the political field. But he was quickly followed by " Winston," and after the coming collapse of the Coalition we quite expect to see these inseparables holding aloft the Imperial banner.

Scissors!

A Sheffield reader asks us to protest against the scissors trade taking up an invention which, it is claimed, is capable of producing by machinery scissors at 7d. per pair as against the present cost of 3s. 6d. But we suppose the " economic " view is that the making of the machines will absorb all the displaced labour. Perhaps—and perhaps not!

Nothing Doing.

We observe that at the recent International Fair at Norfolk House, for the benefit of the " Save the Children " Fund, one of the stalls at which toys were sold was presided over by Herr Stahmer, the German Ambassador, and his wife. We are glad to hear that little business was done, most of the goods doubtless being German made. There should be no toying with the Huns at present.

Breakers Ahead.

Would you believe it? On the ground that British firms who could undertake the work are already fully occupied, our obselete warships are actually being sent to Germany to be broken up. That of course means work for unemployed Germans. Meanwhile, thousands of Englishmen who helped to break up the Germans, and whose homes were broken up in doing it, are free to play barrel organs in the gutter or to die there for want of a job!

The Carol Singers.

The harmless practice of children singing carols at the door has been declared "illegal" by the Chief Constable of Blackpool, with the explanation that, in his opinion, it is morally and physically injurious. Yet surely there are few kindly-disposed persons who object to a musical serenade which helps to make Christmas more real to everybody concerned. We have travelled far from the days when, on Christmas morning, gay parties of "waits" and "mummers" made "Merrie England" worthy of her name.

Glad Tidings.

Listen to this, ye prospective Christmas revellers. "You can eat what you like, drink what you like, and, if the company is good, your digestion will look after itself. A little dissipation is definitely beneficial once a year. Turkey and plum pudding are wholesome and digestive, and if you eat slowly there is no limit to the amount you can put away in comfort." No, this is not a dream. These are the actual words of Dr. Grant Ramsay, principal of the Institute of Hygiene. After such an assurance from so learned a source, even the most confirmed dyspeptic has no excuse for not winning one of our "Bullets" Turkey Prizes.

The Veterans.

People were wont to scoff at the Volunteers. Yet those men, most of them over military age, did not fail us when the call came, freely putting in their 60 hours per week after their days' work, guarding our factories, gasworks, railways and docks, doing routine marching and field training, often of a strenuous character. All they have to show for it is a scrap of paper with a facsimile of Mr. Churchill's signature attached. In common with the "Specials" they want a medal so that they may not enjoy the unenviable distinction of being the only organised body who served during the war without getting one. This reward is certainly no more than their just due.

Sedition and Blasphemy Rampant.

Why, in the name of common sense, do not the police take action against the so-called Socialist Sunday Schools, instead of spending their energies on small boys who play "Put and Take"? We make no apology for returning to this matter, which we regard as of vital importance to the future of the State. It does not need a very vivid imagination to picture the future condition of things if we continue to allow our children to be taught that the Union Jack spells slavery, and that morality is a "capitalist" trick. Failing the police, it is time the Church took a hand in stamping this vile thing out. Ten thousand children are attending these pernicious "schools," and their number is likely to increase. Delay is worse than dangerous; it will prove fatal.

The Crime of Poverty.

We note that a smug and well-fed majority of the Scarborough Guardians refused a local publican's offer of a little beer for the inmates' Christmas Dinner, but told him he might substitute aerated waters! We wonder whether, amid their own stuffing of rich fare, these Scarboro' Scrooges ever think of Dickens' "Christmas Carol" and its wholesome message of good cheer. The dismal "killjoy" gospel is never more out of place than at the season of Peace and Goodwill.

Pigs and Penalties.

We were delighted to read that exemplary fines, totalling over £200, were imposed at Devizes the other day for overcrowding pigs in a railway truck to such an extent that several were found dead when the door was opened, but it seems a pity that these penalties should fall on the shareholders of the Great Western Railway Company instead of upon those who were directly responsible for this disgraceful ill-treatment of dumb animals. Could not the offenders be traced?

Make your Xmas Party a Success!

The "John Bull" Song and Dance Annual will help to brighten many evenings this Christmas. 16 Songs, 8 Dances and chorus of "Whispering." All Star Winners. Get a copy *to-day*.

"JOHN BULL" SONG & DANCE ANNUAL

On sale everywhere, **1/6**

Don't forget the Dancing Competition at the Palais de Danse, Hammersmith, on Friday, December 16. **£50** in Prizes.

Grim Irony.

Harry Radcliffe, 37, a steel driller, of Liverpool, wrote to his wife: "I can stand this no longer. I am nearly out of my mind. There is no work, no money, only poverty. Drink has been my downfall. It is a curse. We shall be happy in the next world. Hurry up and join me." Then he went to his mother's house and cut his throat. But the evidence proved that the poor fellow was not addicted to drink. His long spell of unemployment had unhinged his mind. He was not receiving the dole, but—he had received his income-tax papers!

A Workhouse "At Home"!

Once again the farce is to be played. Herbert Hook, a refractory "pauper"—how we hate that word!—was charged at Brentford with breaking a skylight in the local casual ward. He stated that he had done so by way of protest against the inhuman, cruel and wicked treatment to which he was subjected therein. He invited the Magistrates to inspect the place, which the Chairman promised should be done. But to what end? The workhouse authorities are aware now that a visit of inspection is in the offing, and unless they chance to be the veriest of fools they will prepare for it.

A Bishop's Cheek.

The Bishop of Chelmsford is reported to have said at Whitefield's Tabernacle in Tottenham Court Road that he would have Conservative candidates address Liberal meetings only, and Liberal candidates speak only to Conservatives. Assuming that bishops are logical gentlemen, we infer that his Lordship was addressing a congregation of sinners. But talking of Whitefield's Tabernacle, we like the principle of the Rev. S. Maurice Watts who, following in the footsteps of the late Rev. C. Silvester Horne, throws open his Sunday afternoon platform to speakers of every Party and creed.

Mid-Day Sense.

Madness may endure for a night, but sense cometh in the morning. A day or two after the London County Council displayed unparalleled insanity in placing its ban on the harmless "Midnight Follies" entertainment, it struck forty-eight firms off the list of official contractors because they had not subscribed to the King's National Roll, which provides for the employment of a small percentage of disabled ex-Service men. Will other local authorities please follow this praiseworthy example?

Peterborough Pietists.

Peterborough's new War Memorial Hospital Committee, desiring to augment their coffers, prevailed upon the local cinema proprietors to apply to the Magistrates for permission to give evening performances on Sundays, 50 per cent. of the proceeds going to the fund. The pictures were to be of sound moral and intellectual value, and no doubt would have done much to keep the youth of Peterborough from prowling the streets. But the "unco guid" opposed and the Magistrates turned it down. Another example of the selfish killjoy spirit.

What is a Meal?

Once more, before the Kingston Licensing Justices, the question arose whether a sandwich is a meal within the meaning of the Act, or whether if anybody bought it he was obliged to be caught in the act of eating it. Certainly the statute doesn't say he need eat it. He must be served with "substantial refreshment," and if two slabs of bread half-an-inch thick, internally decorated with mustard and fat ham, isn't a substantial meal, then—well, give it to a Kingston Corporation navvy with a pint of 'arf-an'-'arf and hear what *he* says about it.

Not Cricket!

The Sussex County Football Association Referees' Committee recently examined a candidate and informed him in writing that he had been successful, at the same time asking him to forward two shillings and sixpence to cover the examination fee and the first year's subscription. This he duly paid, but a few days later was told by word of mouth that a mistake had been made and that he had not qualified. Yet the precious Committee sticks to his half-crown, telling him it will cover any other referees' examination he may present himself for. This is not cricket—or any other kind of sportsmanship. There is a name for it which is not nice to write.

"Our Father!"

Westminster, Oxford, Romford, Gloucester, Wallingford, Chesterfield, York—at which, or whereabouts, are you looking for work? The League of Our Father—surely a poet coined that phrase!—has established rest houses at each of these places, wherein the weary wayfarer is welcome to tea and scones and warmth "without money and without price." Over 20,000 men have been assisted in this way. The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. Robinson, of 53, Stanhope Gardens, S.W.7, is appealing for funds to carry on the good work. Much as we need help for our own charities, we would ask our readers this Christmastide not to forget these poor devils who are tramping the broad highway.

PUT down 2d. and TAKE the best Sunday picture paper—SUNDAY ILLUSTRATED.

Nurseries on Rail.

The proposed French method of accommodating babies on the railway might very well be established on the English lines. Compartments are to be reserved for persons travelling with infants, in the same way as "Ladies only" carriages. For the comfort of the children and their nurses, to say nothing of the general public, this innovation is worth a trial. But perhaps it is too homely to commend itself to the grandiose officials who govern such matters in these happy isles.

Fun for the Hun.

The Hun had always a poor idea of fun; judging by a sample of cardboard stencils now before us, some British shopkeepers are not in happier case. "Enclosed find some of the muck, obviously German," says a Rotherhithe reader, "being sold to children in prize-packets. Imagine the feelings of an Englishman, permanently crippled by those human scum, seeing his children playing with stuff like this." One of the stencils depicts Hun soldiers in full war kit shooting—our own flesh and blood, of course! It is a sickening travesty of all the things for which we fought.

Herself, but Not Her Own.

A young mother complained to the Willesden Magistrate that her husband had "stolen" her child. It was asserted that she had had to work to keep the man, who was continually in a state of intoxication. Pitifully she pleaded to be allowed to see her daughter. The Magistrate was unable to help or console. He could only inform her that in the eyes of the law the father is the legal custodian. No wonder the mother left the Court sobbing. A law that parts a woman from her child when she has done nothing to render her an unfit guardian is a wicked and unnatural law. We look to our lady M.P.s to get it altered. They shall have our support.

A Glaswegian's Grouse.

Attracted by the public announcement of the Ministry of Labour that they were prepared to consider applications for certain appointments open for competitive examination, a Glasgow reader paid £3 3s. 6d. tuition fees at a local teaching establishment—now, after several weeks, to be informed that his qualifications are not high enough to justify his being allowed to sit for examination. "I was in the transport service all the war," he says, "holding a Chief Engineer's certificate, and was Sailing Chief until last February. Why did not the Ministry tell us weeks ago, and so save us spending money on class fees?" Perhaps Dr. Macnamara will inform us.

A Thoughtful Judge.

In a dispute in the Court of Chancery, Mr. Walter Melville brought a motion against his brother, Mr. Frederick Melville, claiming an injunction to restrain the Popular Playhouses (Limited) from entering into contracts without the sanction of the Board of Directors. Mr. Justice Sargant asked if the action would stop the Christmas pantomime, and on being informed that it would, His Lordship remarked that he was looking beyond the parties themselves and considering the large number of juveniles who would suffer in consequence. A consultation followed, resulting in a settlement. So, thanks to a thoughtful Judge, the kiddies will have their pantomime after all.

Pity for Poverty.

Not always is it a disadvantage to be poor; this James Lucas, a Manningtree fisherman, now knows. He owned a pony, but he nourished it so cruelly little that when found lying on some marsh land it was so weak that it could not rise unassisted. The defence of Lucas was that he was too poor to feed the animal properly. But what does a man want with a pony if he must kill it by daily inches of torture through starvation? Lucas was lucky to get off with a fine of 10s. Who will now deny that prices are coming down?

Judge v. Jury.

Before Mr. Justice Swift, at the Old Bailey, Reuben Stoneman, a printer, was found guilty of making a false statement during the hearing of a charge at Lambeth Police Court of permitting a house at Walworth to be used for the purpose of betting. He was sentenced to six months' hard labour. Later Edward Johnson, labourer, was tried on a similar charge by another jury, but was acquitted. Whereupon the Judge remarked: "I don't understand upon what principle the jury acted. Fortunately for the administration of justice, the jury which tried Stoneman on exactly the same facts came to a different conclusion." Without going into the details, we do not hesitate to affirm that his Lordship had no right whatever to make these observations. His sole duty is to discharge the man whom the jury had acquitted.

Make a ——— for it!

If you lose your train; if you mislay your back collar-stud; if you feel upset by life's little worries make a dash for the Christmas Number of the "LONDON MAIL." It's enough to make a man feel happy on the day he pays his income tax.

London Mail

Christmas Number selling rapidly everywhere, 6d.

Polluting the Young.

It is time that more drastic action was taken against those wretched moral perverts who prey upon young girls at cinema entertainments. A man fifty-eight years of age was sentenced recently to two months for molesting a girl of fourteen at the Hoxton Cinema. Unless these offences are severely dealt with, such old reprobates will soon make the "movies" a hot-bed of pollution. We do not pretend to understand the leniency of certain Magistrates.

A Vowel Mistake.

Not long ago we addressed a Candid Communication to Mr. H. E. Williams, a Surrey footballer, whom we described as a member of the Tidworth Football Club. It now appears that we made a mistake, although one for which we may perhaps be forgiven if we do penance on bended knee. Misled by the slovenly reporting of a London evening newspaper, whose name wild horses shall not drag from us, we printed an "i" where an "a" should have been—Mr. H. E. Williams having, as a matter of fact, been a member, not of the Tidworth Football Club, but of the Tadworth Football Club. We are sorry that there was belonging to the Tidworth Club another Mr. Williams, an entirely blameless individual, and we offer our apologies to this gentleman for any inconvenience which may have resulted from a mistake which in the first instance was not ours.

Bitter.

The brewers waxed fat during the war, and though since the Armistice the cost of such raw material as sugar and barley, as well as labour, has been heavily reduced, beer is still as sloppy, and still as dear, as it was two years ago. It has, of course, to bear the heavy taxation of £3 on the 36-gallon barrel, but even so 7d. is a very high price to charge the horny-handed son of toil for a pint of adulterated water.

The Juggernaut of "Justice."

That some Magistrates imagine that man was made for the law instead of the law for man, was again exemplified in the case of an Old-age Pensioner at Leyton, who was fined twenty shillings for keeping a dog without a licence. This fine was imposed in spite of the old man stating that he had now obtained a licence and that he had only his pension of ten shillings a week to live upon. Such inhumanity is alien to the true spirit of British justice and entirely out of place at this season of the year.

A Contrast.

In Whitehall, that thoroughfare of gigantic buildings super-abundantly staffed, stands the palatial Ministry of Health. In Whitechapel stands the London Hospital, which through lack of funds is forced to turn away 4,000 patients yearly, many of whom will probably die. St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington way, is contemplating the closing of a hundred beds. What's to be done about it? The failure to devise a sane and workable scheme of hospital management and maintenance is a reproach to all concerned.

More Politics in School.

It is a matter for regret that the mothers of children attending a school in Llanelly, having brought a charge against Mr. Dan Griffiths of reading the *Communist* and *Daily Herald* in the school, abandoned the fight and allowed the matter to drop. Nobody will deny that many items in these papers have a definite political significance, and it is a public scandal that politics of any brand or colour should be forced down the throats of children, who are thus given a bias when too young to grasp the full meaning of such doctrine. The parents should certainly reopen this matter and insist on "No politics" in school.

A Hard-hearted Bench.

If the war had still been on, and Guyett had been introduced to the Brentford Magistrates as one who was doing, or had done, his bit in France, Italy, Salonica, Gallipoli, India and Mesopotamia, nothing would have been too good for him. But the other day, penniless after being without work for five weeks, he took a few parsnips because, as he pleaded, he could not bear to see his children starve. And this noble Bench gave him fourteen days with hard labour! A lady of St. Leonards-on-Sea, touched by the case, offers a gift of £2 for the children. What a difference in view!

Don't Worry.

The Christmas gift problem need not worry you if you take advantage of our wonderful Christmas gift offers to *you*, in connection with our famous "John Bull" Pens, full particulars of which will be found on the front cover and page 14 of this issue.

See Front Cover—for JOHN BULL'S Christmas Gift to YOU.

AMAZING SPIRIT CAMERA FRAUDS.

PSYCHIC EXPERIMENTERS CAUGHT RED-HANDED IN TRANSPARENT DECEPTION AND TRICKERY.

By W. CHARLES PILLEY (*Assistant Editor*).

IN an article I wrote a week or two ago on the "dark doings" of the spiritualist, I promised shortly to return to the subject, and if possible to give the experience of an investigator whose nerve and judgment might be relied upon to answer the severest tests. I was fortunate enough to secure the services of a trained student of psychic problems and one, moreover, who is by no means hostile to the views of those who claim to have established communication with the dead. The name of Mr. C. H. Mitchell, a former leader of the Hackney Spiritualist Society, is extremely well-known in mediumistic circles in London. It seemed an excellent plan to have enquiries made by an earnest seeker after truth who was already on terms of easy acquaintanceship with the high priests of the occult movement. I laid no instructions upon Mr. Mitchell beyond the bare request that he should undertake for me certain tests of a scientific nature which would enable me to assess the value of these spirit phenomena and to compare notes with Mr. James Douglas, whose articles on this subject in a Sunday newspaper have been the theme of widespread comment, for there can be no more terrible form of deception than that which mocks the agony of human grief.

The Fountain Head.

Deeming it desirable to start where Mr. Douglas started, I commissioned Mr. Mitchell to undertake a special enquiry into the subject of spirit photography, a task for which he possessed the advantage of being himself an expert photographer, and having no need to rely upon outside aid for the development of his plates. It was at the British College of Psychic Science, of 59, Holland Park, W., under the auspices of a certain Mr. Hope, that Mr. James Douglas commenced his enquiries, and it seemed, therefore, that my investigator could do no better than apply in the first instance to this same emporium of light. That Mr. Douglas had no such advantages in the way of technical skill and knowledge of photography as are possessed by Mr. Mitchell is evident from his own admission in the following terms:

> I have minutely described the whole process. It is fair to say that all the precautions taken were suggested by Mr. Hope and not by me. I have no knowledge of photography, and my part in the experiment was that of an impartial investigator exercising ordinary common sense. So far as my eyesight can be trusted, I saw nothing whatever to justify the suggestion that Mr. Hope changed the box of plates before I opened it, or that he tampered with any of the plates before I had developed them.

We shall see. As it happened, Mr. Mitchell took the precaution of taking his own plates with him, and on his first introduction to a Mrs. Deane, who was to conduct the experiments, he insisted as strongly as he could that these plates of his own, and no others, should be used. It will be remembered that Mr. Mitchell had previously had a good deal of experience in the realm of psychic investigation, and although, as we say, he preserved an open mind and was still eager to obtain some definite evidence which would enable him honestly to embrace the cult of spiritualism, he was naturally anxious that there should be no loophole for deception. It is possible to be at once sceptical and devout, and no earnest spiritualist will quarrel with the following statement in the investigator's own words:—

> It occurred to me (as it possibly did to Mr. Douglas) that if a spirit photograph were to appear on a plate which had never left my possession, and under conditions which left no room for trickery, I would be justified in regarding this as a definite proof of the work of invisible forces possessing intelligence. I discovered from a letter received from the editor of *The Two Worlds* that there were only two photographic mediums available to the public, viz., Mrs. Deane and Mr. Hope. The letter went on to say: "Either of these are perfectly reliable," and indicated that their services might be engaged at the British College of Psychic Science. I accordingly fixed up an appointment to meet Mrs. Deane there, and enclosed the fee of one guinea, which it was required should be paid in advance. Having expressed in writing a request that I should be allowed to bring my own plates, I was rather surprised at receiving a letter from the Secretary of the College stating that *I must let Mrs. Deane have my plates a few days beforehand for the purposes of magnetisation.* I objected to this, in view of my desire that there should be nothing which might cast a doubt as to the genuineness of any results I might get, and eventually received a letter from Mr. J. Hewat McKenzie, the Resident Principal of the College, suggesting, as an alternative, that I should magnetise the plates myself by keeping them near me for a few days.

It is evident, therefore, that Mr. Hope, who piloted Mr. James Douglas through the strange waters of spiritualism, was in the same boat as Mrs. Deane, who was to perform this grateful office for Mr. Mitchell. Fortunately, Mr. Mitchell furnished me with a full description of these proceedings, which the studious reader may be interested to compare with the records of the experiences of "impartial investigators" which he may have read elsewhere:—

> The preliminaries being thus arranged, we were asked to sit on a wicker settee before a dark screen or background. Then, handing us each a hymn book, a hymn was selected and sung. At the close of this, Mrs. Deane commenced to sing vigorously, "We shall meet on the beautiful shore," and intimated that we were to "join in." We did so; but I must confess that the reverence usually associated with the singing of sacred verses was becoming increasingly difficult to maintain. The broad daylight; Mrs. Deane's somewhat shrill voice; the absence of any accompaniment to the singing; the businesslike-appearance of the studio; all these things were entirely opposed to the creation of a spiritual "atmosphere," such as one would regard as being most essential when dealing with the "Living Dead." Mrs. Deane then collected our slides in her hands, placing one hand at the top and one at the bottom. She instructed us to place our hands in a similar manner over hers, and in this position we recited the Lord's Prayer. The next minute she was bustling about the studio, arranging the camera and ourselves, and as soon as we were properly focused, six different exposures were made of from 30 to 40 seconds duration, each on a separate plate, and each plate in a separate slide. Handing two of the slides to Mrs. Deane, I put the others in my pocket, and followed her into the adjoining dark-room. Here were the red light, sink, and dishes all complete, and so far as I could judge she took the plates straight out of the slides, and handed them to me for development. Our photographs slowly began to form on the plates, but, to my surprise, over the face of my friend a black patch began to appear. We anxiously finished the development and fixing of the plates, but when we came to examine them in the daylight we found that the mysterious patch was simply a smudge, such as could be produced by the impress of a finger which had been dipped in some chemical.

At this point it is necessary to pause and check the experiences of our investigator by the ordinarily accepted canons of common sense. In view of the fact that the plates were taken from the camera and removed from the slides by Mrs. Deane in the dim red light of the dark-room, there was something peculiarly audacious in her suggestion that the smudge found on the plates after development was an authentic spirit photograph. In appearance it was "like nothing on earth," and might have been produced in a dozen ways without supernatural intervention. But the real test was to come. Meeting Mrs. Deane on her own ground, Mr. Mitchell, before taking his leave, purchased from her an unopened packet of plates which she claimed had been "magnetised" by contact with her own mystic personality, and from which, as she encouraged her clients to believe, better results might be expected. The amazing sequel I commend to the earnest attention of Mr. James Douglas and other diligent explorers of the realm of the occult.

Exposing an Exposure.

The packet of plates was supposed to have come straight from the makers, unopened, before it reached the hands of Mr. Mitchell. The intention was that they should be exposed in a camera in the ordinary way, when, if the occult influences were favourable, a spirit photograph would appear. Suspecting that the plates might have been fraudulently tampered with, Mr. Mitchell developed one or two of them first, and was rewarded by the untimely and premature appearance of a "spirit photograph" of the head of a soldier in a khaki cap, surrounded with what looked like a mass of cotton wool. It was as obvious as anything could be that this plate, when received from Mrs. Deane, had not only been "magnetised" by that versatile lady, but actually exposed in a camera and a dummy photograph taken. In further proof of this, it was noticed that the negative in question had a white unexposed margin, from which any experienced person could detect that it had been inserted in a photographic slide. To clinch the matter further, Mr. Mitchell at once got into communication with the Ilford Photographic Company, Ltd., who were the makers of the plates, and received from them the following report:

> We have now had this matter considered in our laboratories and our chemists are of the opinion that it is a comparatively simple matter for anyone at all expert in this work to unseal the outer wrapping of a box of our plates, to remove the contents and re-seal it so well that it has every appearance of having never been touched... We can positively say that the developed plates you send satisfy us that these plates have been tampered with, and to what you have pointed out to us, we would add that we have marked one plate with an X, which, if placed film to film with No. 5, will be seen to bear an identical fog pattern in one corner and running across that short edge of the plate, showing that these plates were in contact film to film when light struck. . . . We are much obliged to you for giving us the opportunity of seeing these plates, and are undoubtedly of your own opinion that the so-called spirit picture has been obtained by fraud.

This is a fair sample of the childish manœuvres which in the realm of occult investigation have served to deceive brilliant journalists, learned scientists and erudite philosophers! It is a strange and disappointing world.

The weekly review of British Sport— SUNDAY SPORTS TELEGRAM.

TORTURING THE INSANE.

SIX THOUSAND HEROES IN LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

Some time ago we drew public attention to the fact that thousands of ex-Service men who had lost their mental faculties as a result of terrible experiences on the battlefield were not only shut up in asylums, but treated there as pauper lunatics. After considerable pressure the authorities at last rectified that particular scandal, and the men are now classed as Service patients, being given certain privileges which help to mitigate in some degree their awful sufferings. There remains, however, another task. It is to get these brave men, numbering over 6,000, out of the asylums altogether, or at least to ensure that absolutely the most up-to-date system of treatment is given to them. There is no scandal at present to compare with the fate to which we consign these mental derelicts of the war. Now the average asylum is the most antiquated, deadening, and hopeless institution on earth. To the human being who is unfortunate enough to enter, it offers nothing but a terrible stigma that will remain with him for the rest of his life. No longer is it possible, fortunately, for the Ministry of Pensions to argue that the public asylum, with its deadly code of inaction, is the only place for the war hero who has lost his reason. The ex-Service Welfare Association is at the present moment showing that there are other and better ways of dealing with him. But the Ministry, so far from encouraging the new scheme, is really, by its actions, discouraging it.

A SURE HOPE.

For many people who become afflicted with mental disease there is, admittedly, no cure; but the tragedy of the situation is that it is for the soldier or sailor so afflicted that there is most hope. The simple explanation is that the cause of their trouble is very frequently purely physical. At a wonderful home set up by the Ex-Service Welfare Association in London, cures are being accomplished with remarkable regularity. Yet the Pensions Ministry will have none of it, and the man who enters it is forthwith deprived of his treatment allowance. He receives this allowance if he goes to an asylum where his chances of recovery are almost non-existent, but not unless. Brightness and freedom from restraint constitute part of the cure at the home, but the most important part is the medical attention given to the men. They are examined by specialists until the cause of their malady is discovered. Then they are treated accordingly, and soon there is a great improvement.

RETURNING TO WORK.

No such hopeful experiment for the insane has been attempted before. The Pensions Ministry will in due course be forced by public opinion to abandon its present impossible attitude. Its reason for withholding the treatment allowance to those who enter the home is stated by Mr. Ian Macpherson to be that he refuses to permit uncertified cases to be mixed with certified ones. The reply to that is that there are only two or three uncertified cases at this home, and for them treatment allowance is not claimed. The all-important point for the public is that here is a sound up-to-date method of caring for the mentally afflicted with strong hope of success, and it opens up new worlds for the poor men who have fought and suffered for England. Perhaps it may be objected that it is expensive. At first sight, it does cost a good deal more than the 22s. 3d. which is the average cost of a patient in a public asylum, but that is not to say that it is more expensive. In a comparatively short time the home returns men to productive work. In an asylum they would be a drain on the nation for years. There can be no doubt as to which method should be adopted.

THE WAKEFORD PETITION.

THOUSANDS OF PERSONS ANXIOUS TO SIGN.

Each post brings a large number of letters from persons who are anxious to sign the Petition to the King on behalf of ex-Archdeacon Wakeford. Many of our correspondents have volunteered to collect signatures, and, needless to say, we shall be pleased to avail ourselves of any help of this nature that may be forthcoming. One large firm in an important business town has offered to place a portion of its premises aside for the convenience of those anxious to sign, and there is no doubt at all that the petition will go forward to His Majesty supported by all those who are jealous for the course of British justice. Any number of forms can be obtained upon application to the Chief Commissioner at this office. It should also be remembered that Mr. W. Charles Pilley's striking volume, "The Mystery of the Wakeford Case" (one shilling net) is obtainable upon application to the Chief Commissioner, JOHN BULL, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

"TOFFEE-APPLES."

FEROCIOUS FINE FOR A PRESUMED OFFENCE.

Robert Frederick Bursill, of Grosvenor Terrace, Camberwell Gate, is to-day a man labouring under a sense of serious injustice. During the month of August he had turned an honest penny by selling "toffee-apples"—apples dipped in boiling toffee—to local children. "Toffee-apples" possess the peculiarity of going bad so quickly that, unless they are sold on the day they are dipped, they have to be destroyed. September 3rd marked the end of the "toffee-apple" season, and Bursill turned his attention to the peddling of rabbits. Inadvertently he left a number of unsold apples on his premises, from which he was absent until the 6th. His intention had been to hand the apples over to the dustman, but for some trivial reason he omitted to do this. Consequently, when the Sanitary Inspector called on him on the date last named, this official found 67 apples, most of which had been dipped, and of that number 27 were unsound and "unfit for the food of man." Bursill explained to the Inspector that he had no intention of selling them. Nevertheless, he was summoned, and fined by Mr. Hay Halkett £10 and two guineas costs! We consider Bursill has been unduly punished for a purely technical offence.

RESULT OF FOOTBALL COMPETITION NO. 14.

In this competition the following 32 competitors each sent a coupon containing a correct forecast of the ten matches played on December 3rd, and, therefore, divide the prize of £2,000, each receiving the sum of £62 10s.:—

Ethel Beaumont, 22, Derby Street, Newnham Croft, Cambridge; H. G. Beckett, 43, Little Preston Street, Brighton; D. Brink, Angleton, Bridgend, S.W.; S. R. Britten, 147a, Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell, A. Bryce, 452, Oldham Road, Middleton, Manchester; W. Clark, 42, Westport, Dundee; H. Davies, 11, King's Road, Canton, Cardiff; W. Dawbin, 82, Stanley Road, South Harrow; A. Dowling, 2, Burnsfield Street, Chatteris, Cambs.; P. Fagg, Denne Court, Eastry, Kent; Maria Farquharson, 15, Fergus Square, Arbroath; G. C. Fettis, 98, Grange Road, Jarrow-on-Tyne; R. H. Field, 18, Newton Street, Off Boulevard, Hull; Mrs. E. Hawkings, 6, Kirchen Road, West Ealing; H. W. Hobbs, 54, Wallbutton Road, Brockley, S.E. 4; A. Jones, 83, Tachbrook Road, Feltham, Middlesex; W. Lewthwaite, 108, Holborn Hill, Millom, Cumb.; J. Lithgow, 54, Ingleheld Street, Govanhill, Glasgow; J. R. Livingston, 43, Wellington St., Hebburn; Florence Mackenzie, 43, Ashley Terrace, Edinburgh; Mrs. F. J. Morgan, 28, Hadyn Terrace, "Penydaren," Merthyr Tydvil; E. Morley, 29, Wingfield Street, Stretford, Manchester; E. E. Pouard, No. 4 Bungalow, Croydon Lane, Woodmansterne, Banstead; C. Sexton, Thorn, Castle Cary, Som.; D. Shaw, East Harling, Attleborough, Norfolk; F. Smith, 27, Salisbury Road, St. James, Exeter; J. C. Smith, 27, Little Frederick Street, Cardiff; J. Threlkeld, Maiwand, Reading Road, Fleet, Hants; Grace Webber, High Street, St. Ives, Cornwall; A. G. Whitehead, 11, Isledon Road, Holloway; J. Wilsderspin, 43, Adam & Eve Row, Cambridge; Constance Wright, 11, Monkswell Street, Liverpool.

Do not miss this week's special *one week* offer of £1,000 for ten results. A free coupon will be found on Page iii. of cover.

GUARANTEED

ALL LEATHER BOOTS

ONLY 12/6 per pair—this astounding offer is only possible because a manufacturer has accepted a huge order from us at under cost in order to give work to his staff—and because Horne Brothers are passing these boots on to the public at the smallest margin of profit.
These boots are of sound box leather with solid leather soles. Plain stitched toe-cap for smart appearance, pliable uppers. Strongly sewn, leather lined. These splendid boots are covered by our full guarantee, and are FAR and away the greatest value in footwear in Britain to-day. Made in Derby and Balmoral shapes. State which required when ordering, also give size worn.

POST YOUR ORDER TODAY

SATISFACTION OR MONEY BACK GUARANTEED

Horne BROTHERS

90-92, OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.1

MILLER'S MUSTEROLE—QUICK RELIEF! NO BLISTER!

It Soothes and Relieves like a Mustard Plaster Without the Burn or Sting

Miller's Musterole is a clean, white ointment, made with oil of mustard. It does all the work of the old-fashioned mustard plaster—does it better and does not blister. You do not have to bother with a cloth. You simply rub it on—and usually the pain is gone!

Many doctors and nurses use Miller's Musterole and recommend it to their patients.

They will gladly tell you what relief it gives from sore throat, bronchitis, croup, stiff neck, asthma, neuralgia, congestion, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of the back or joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frosted feet, colds of the chest (it often prevents pneumonia).

2/6 a jar. All chemists.

THOS. CHRISTY & CO.,
4-12 Old Swan Lane, London, E.C. 4.

MILLER'S MUSTEROLE
WILL NOT BLISTER

See Front Cover—for JOHN BULL'S Christmas Gift to YOU.

A PARSON'S SHAMEFUL CONDUCT.

CLERICAL BIGOTRY WHICH WOULD BAR THE GATES OF HEAVEN.

A POIGNANT tragedy of blighted youthful hopes and agonised despair recently occurred which, in its essential features, might have been calculated to move the hardest heart to sympathetic commiseration. It has had a sequel, however, which shows up in a lurid light the extent to which a certain type of cleric may become so blinded by bigotry as to belie the simple teaching of the Founder of Christianity—and behave in a heartless manner which must call forth condemnation and contempt from the most profane. We tell the sad story in all its sorrowful simplicity.

"Young and So Fair."

Mary Grace Enstone was a bright girl of twenty-five, living at Hampton, near Evesham, Worcestershire, with her father, a market-gardener, and sexton of the parish church. That she was a good girl there was no shadow of doubt. She was employed during the day-time as a maid, by Mrs. Lowe, of Owletts Road, Bengeworth. Her mistress gives her an excellent character, and she was almost invariably back under her father's roof by half-past six in the evening. Nine months ago, she made the acquaintance of John Thomas Harris, a young market-gardener of Badsey, and it is evident that she conceived for him an extremely deep affection. Though he gave her no ring, the young couple were regarded by relatives as being engaged, and, as a matter of fact, they had been together to look for a house in which to make their home. But the love that was to the girl her whole existence—as time was to prove in so tragic a fashion—was apparently to the man a thing apart. In August, a lovers' tiff developed into a more serious quarrel, which resulted in the engagement being broken off. The girl was terribly upset by this shattering of her hopes, for, as she pathetically told her father at the time, she felt she could never care for anybody else, and, prompted by the deep affection which she bore him, she made repeated attempts at reconciliation with the man she loved—but without success. The last day of October had yielded to a rough, dark, stormy night when she felt impelled to make one more effort to retrieve the happiness her aching heart craved, and on leaving her mistress's house she cycled to the home of her erstwhile lover and pleaded with tears that they should let bygones be bygones and make it up again. The man, unmoved by her obvious distress, told her she would get the same answer as he had given her twice before. The girl, without a word, rode off wildly into the storm and was never seen alive again. Day after day, for four weeks, her grief-stricken father and brother walked up and down the banks of the River Avon seeking some trace, and kindly neighbours scoured the countryside in search of the missing girl. At last, in the grey early morning of Monday, November 28th, the haggard and distracted father saw in the stream something that looked like a bag, and climbing into the branches of a tree, dragged ashore what proved to be his child's dead body.

"Take Her Up Tenderly."

Then seemed to end a pathetically moving tragedy—the tragedy of a tender-hearted girl who valued love more than life, and, driven mad by despair, ended an existence that had become insupportable. It is important to note that there was no suggestion of impropriety or misconduct having clouded the poor girl's life. The doctor who made a post-mortem examination declared that there was nothing wrong with the girl. A case for deepest sympathy, if ever there was one. Now let us see what sympathy was displayed by the parson. The last sad rites were arranged to take place on the following Wednesday, in Hampton Parish Church. On the Tuesday evening the Vicar of Hampton, the Reverend D. Fitz-Maurice, expressed a doubt as to whether he should allow the body to be taken into the Church. The sorrowing father pleaded earnestly that his loved one's poor remains might be spared the cruel indignity suggested, and the Vicar at last said he would go home and pray over the question. Whether he prayed, to whom he prayed, or whether he received an answer to his prayer we do not know, but certainly his subsequent actions were more like those of a man under the guidance of some evil genius than of a Christian minister.

"Rarity of Christian Charity."

About two hours before the funeral ceremony, to the consternation of the mourners, he announced his final decision to refuse to allow the body to enter the Church. When the relatives, astounded at this decision, suggested that they had a right to demand it, he declared that he would lock the door in their faces and defy them! Nor would he read a proper burial service, or allow another minister to officiate, stating that his conscience would not permit him to do so. As the relatives had no desire to create a scene on such a sorrowful and solemn occasion, they had perforce to be content with a ceremony in the churchyard. Now, the jury had returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst temporarily insane," a formula expressly designed, as everyone knows, to indicate that in taking her life she committed no conscious crime. Yet this cleric forbids her, in death, to enter the Church she attended while in life. He goes even further—for, seeing that insanity is in every country and every clime regarded as a visitation of God, he actually takes vengeance on her cold clay for an act of the Deity Whose servant he professes to be. The relatives may find consolation in the reflection that a parson who locks the Church door does not thereby bar the gates of Heaven, and in the recollection of Him who forgave much to a woman because she had loved much.

LEGALISED SLAVERY.

AMAZING METHODS OF A BRADFORD CONCERN.

From 1916 until last summer, Miss Maude Youngs, of Waterloo Road, Norwich, was employed as canvasser and collector by the Provident Clothing Supply Company, of Bradford, Yorkshire. Last August, however, she had the temerity to ask the local Manager's consent to take a week's holiday, which was granted—though afterwards she was summarily dismissed on the pretext that she had not only taken the holiday without permission, but had not collected the usual amount of money during that week. Her explanation—that the period in question was a general holiday in the district, when all the local factories were closed, and most of her customers had asked her not to call, also that she had, in fact, collected the arrears in the following week—was not accepted. It appears that, besides exacting an initial deposit of £25 from their collectors, paying them commission only, and binding them by various restrictions, these "Provident" people never give a holiday. The employees, however, may be allowed to "take" one, if they write for permission to the Directors at Bradford, and provide and pay deputies during their absence. In the result, Miss Youngs won her case. She deserves the thanks of the working community for giving further publicity to the egregious methods of her late employers—which we have during the last few years upon several occasions exposed.

BRITISH FLAG INSULTED.

SIX-YEAR-OLD OUTRAGE BY BLACK REPUBLIC.

Christopher Hall, Master of the British sloop *Susan H.*, cleared from Grand Turk, Turk Island, West Indies, for the Republic of Hayti, on May 29th, 1915. About fifteen miles off land, a Haytian gun-boat seized the sloop, took her into port and made the crew prisoners, allowing them a meagre diet of provisions taken from the vessel. After considerable ill-usage, they were allowed to return. During the detention the hatches had been left off, and such of the cargo as had not been looted was ruined. The Master and also the shipper made claims against the Haytian Government, and endeavoured without success to obtain redress through the Commissioner at Grand Turk and the British Vice-Consul at Port-au-Prince. All they could get from these worthies up to March, 1920, was that the Haytian gun-boats had been sold to the U.S.A. in 1915. The Colonial Secretary at Jamaica was appealed to on 6th May, 1920. He condescended to reply on March 21st, 1921—ten months later—that "after so long no claim could be sustained"! In despair, the shipper wrote direct to the Secretary for the Colonies in London. That guardian of the interests of British colonial subjects replied that the grievance would be "considered"—if put forward through the Governor of Jamaica. So far, only six and a half years has elapsed; perhaps before another six an official inquiry will be made of the Haytian Government.

SEARCH FOR THE MYSTIC EIGHT.

MUST BE FOUND IN TWO WEEKS' TIME.

By December 30th, the race for the "Mystic Eight" £500 prizes will have finished—but there is still time to enter. For those who have already sent in solutions—and these will not be opened until December 30th—there is a special Christmas offer of £20 for the one who sends in the greatest number of correct solutions. Everyone, whether he has already entered or not, stands a chance, and the later the attempts for the special Christmas Prize are sent, the bigger the opportunity of securing additional solutions. Only two solutions are known to us, but there may be others. Only entries on the yellow forms provided will be accepted for the Christmas award, and competitors should be careful to send all their solutions in one envelope, or, failing that, to send a note of the date and number of any previous solutions sent. The Puzzle consists of eight small cubes, which have to be arranged in a certain manner, clearly described in the complete conditions contained in each box, so that each of the six sides of the made-up cube totals the same. The solution may be arrived at by any combination of figures which give the desired result. In the event of a tie, the prizes will be divided. Prize-winners will be notified on January 7th, 1922, and the names and addresses will be published in John Bull dated January 14th, 1922. You may win a valuable prize. Start to-day!

Are you competing for the BIG CASH PRIZE in SUNDAY ILLUSTRATED?

SAINTS AND SINNERS: By THE CANDID FRIEND.

PEN PORTRAITS OF PROMINENT PEOPLE.

LORD BIRKENHEAD.

A GREAT parliamentarian who is at the present moment a member of the British Cabinet said to me one day: "The appointment of dear old 'F. E.' to the Woolsack will become a legend in the future." I asked Mr. Winston Churchill what he meant by this statement, and he explained.

He thought that the appointment of a comparative youngster like Sir Frederick Smith—better known as "F. E." to all his intimates—to the great and august position of Lord Chancellor would be almost unbelievable to future generations. That is why he believed "F. E." would become a sort of legend.

Well, a legend is a history which deals with miraculous, marvellous, and occasionally unusual events. Such has been the life of our present Lord Chancellor, Lord Birkenhead. In agreement with Macaulay, I am not particularly concerned with the views of posterity. So far as posterity is concerned, Lord Birkenhead—late F. E. Smith—may become a myth So far as I am concerned, he is a fact. I have spent some of the best years of my life watching the marvel growing and developing.

"F. E." was a product of comparatively humble parentage at Liverpool. He had to work for his education as well as to work for his living. He worked so hard that one day he arrived at Oxford, and woke up one morning to find himself the greatest young man of his time. The great outer world was dead and indolent in those days so far as "F. E." was concerned. Oxford knew him, and Oxford appraised him, but outside the cloistered solitudes of Oxford this brilliant boy was not known.

I have said already that he will become a legendary figure, and even now there are all sorts of legends attaching to his name. There is a story that whilst he was at Oxford he tossed up a coin with a present Cabinet Minister to decide on which side of politics he should enlist his services when he emerged into public life. The legend is pretty but doubtful. Yet, if it were true, it would make no difference to the significance of Lord Birkenhead's subsequent career.

He chose to be a Conservative, and is, perhaps, the only brilliant personality that Conservatism has produced since poor George Wyndham died. Had he elected to be a Liberal and go on the other side of the political raree-show, it would have made little difference. He would still have been an indomitable personality. He would still have been sincere. He would still have been one of those creatures created to shape and colour the history of the times in which they live.

I first met him when he was a young and progressive barrister appearing for the defence in regard to certain charges concerned with the Liverpool Bank. His speech for one of the prisoners in the Liverpool Bank Fraud case electrified the Court, and aroused us to the fact that a new personality had arrived at the English Bar.

The next time I heard him speak was when he delivered his maiden speech in the House of Commons. It was at the time of the great Radical victory of 1906. The "Rads" had swept the country and obtained a sensational majority. A depressed and demoralised handful of Unionists faced the Government from the other side of the House. It was from these disorganised and dispirited ranks that the comparatively unknown figure of F. E. Smith arose and astonished the House with one of the most remarkable speeches to which it has ever listened.

I do not remember Mr. Balfour being present on that occasion, but I remember Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's comments on the speech. The old statesman saw a new hope, life and vigour for the Unionist Party in the personality of the young barrister from Liverpool and Oxford. I remember that Mr. Balfour was a little disappointed in the first speech that he heard "F. E." make in the House. It was an impromptu affair on a very trivial subject, and, apart from its flavouring of wit, called for little account. Mr. Balfour could not understand the extraordinary impression created by that first speech which had aroused so much comment. But even this doubting philosopher soon reached the age of understanding so far as "F. E." was concerned, and realised that in the young lawyer from Liverpool he had the most brilliant lieutenant in his political army.

From that moment "F.E." advanced from success to success. His triumphs in the Law Courts kept pace with his astonishing progress in politics. I know that a number of people saw fit to sneer at him as "Galloper Smith" when he was fighting the battles of Ulster. But he was as sincere in his Irish interests then as he is to-day, and, in view of recent events, I suppose there is hardly anyone within our midst who would rise now and suggest that Lord Birkenhead had not done all in human power to purge the Empire from the peril of Irish disunion. Lord Birkenhead's efforts for peace in the Irish crisis have involved many sacrifices. They certainly involved the sacrifice of political friendships.

The youngest man ever placed on the Woolsack in all time, one wonders whether Lord Birkenhead, with his brilliance and energy, will be content to occupy that comfortable seat for long. I doubt it. Such a man cannot retire with receding Governments. He cannot be placed on the shelf.

So his future must remain an adventure in which we are all deeply interested.

I use the word adventure, because I remember the occasion when a certain Judge, who was talking to a friend in Liverpool, nodded to "F. E." as the latter passed him. "Who's that?" inquired the friend. "Oh, that's F. E. Smith," replied the Judge. "And who's F. E. Smith?" was the next question. "Oh, simply a young adventurer," said his lordship, "but one who is going to explore quite a lot of country."

I will leave it at that. Nobody knows better than Lord Birkenhead that if you have genius, sincerity and industry, life can be made the most glorious adventure ever known.

S E

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

Period Excursion Tickets will be issued by the Trains named and only to the Stations shown below, at **about Single fare-and-a-third.**

OUTWARDS—**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th.**

	p.m.		p.m.
VICTORIA .....dep.	9 20	CHARING CROSS ,dep.	9 40
HERNE HILL... ,,	9 30	LONDON BRIDGE ,,	9 47
BROMLEY SOUTH ,,	9 45	SEVENOAKS.....arr.	10 30
CHATHAM .....arr.	10 25	TONBRIDGE..... ,,	10 42
GILLINGHAM ... ,,	10 32	TUNBRIDGE WLS. ,,	11 0
SITTINGBOURNE. ,,	10 47	CROWHURST .... ,,	11 35
QUEENBOROUGH. ,,	11 8	BEXHILL ..... ,,	11 30
SHEERNESS DOCK ,,	11 13	W.ST.LEONARDS ,,	11 42
FAVERSHAM .... ,,	11 2	ST. LEONARDS .. ,,	11 46
WHITSTABLE TWN ,,	11 17	HASTINGS ..... ,,	11 50
HERNE BAY.... ,,	11 25	PADDOCK WOOD ,,	10 54
BIRCHINGTON .. ,,	11 39	ASHFORD..... ,,	11 25
WESTGATE ..... ,,	11 44	SANDLING JUNC. ,,	11 42
MARGATE WEST ,,	11 49	SHORNCLIFFE. .. ,,	11 50
BROADSTAIRS .. ,,	11 59	FOLKESTONE CL. ,,	11 54
	a.m.	,, JUNC. ,,	11 59
RAMSGATE HARB. ,,	12 7		a.m.
	p.m.	DOVER PRIORY . ,,	12 17
CANTERBURY E. ,,	11 26	MARTIN MILL... ,,	12 32
DOVER PRIORY.. ,,	11 53	WALMER ..... ,,	12 37
		DEAL ..... ,,	12 42

RETURNING—**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27th.**

	p.m.		p.m.
DOVER PRIORY..dep.	7 0	DEAL .....dep.	6 55
CANTERBURY E.. ,,	7 28	WALMER ..... ,,	7 0
RAMSGATE HARB. ,,	6 55	MARTIN MILL .. ,,	7 8
BROADSTAIRS ... ,,	7 2	DOVER PRIORY.. ,,	7 20
MARGATE WEST ,,	7 10	FOLKESTONE JN. ,,	7 40
WESTGATE ..... ,,	7 16	,, CENT. ,,	7 45
BIRCHINGTON .. ,,	7 21	SHORNCLIFFE ... ,,	7 49
HERNE BAY.... ,,	7 36	SANDLING JUNC. ,,	7 58
WHITSTABLE TN. ,,	7 45	ASHFORD..... ,,	8 15
FAVERSHAM .... ,,	8 0	PADDOCK WOOD ,,	8 44
SHEERNESS DK. ,,	7 50	HASTINGS ..... ,,	7 25
QUEENBOROUGH ,,	7 55	ST. LEONARDS .. ,,	7 29
SITTINGBOURNE ,,	8 15	W.ST.LEONARDS ,,	7 33
GILLINGHAM ... ,,	8 30	BEXHILL ..... ,,	7 5
CHATHAM ..... ,,	8 37	CROWHURST ..... ,,	7 40
BROMLEY SOUTH arr,	9 20	TUNBRIDGE WLS. ,,	8 25
HERNE HILL... ,,	9 38	TONBRIDGE ... ,,	8 55
VICTORIA..... ,,	9 53	SEVENOAKS..... ,,	9 14
		LONDON BRIDGE arr.	9 51
		CHARING CROSS . ,,	10 0

Week-End Tickets, available by any Ordinary Train, will also be **issued** on **Saturday, December 24th,** available to return on **Sunday, 25th,** or **Monday, 26th,** between any two Stations on the Company's system at fares about equivalent to a Single-fare-and-a-Third. Minimum Fares, 1st Class, 10s., 2nd Class, 7s. 6d., 3rd Class, 5s.

For particulars of above, apply at any S.E. & C.R. Station, P. C. TEMPEST, General Manager.

C R

Scientific & Useful Gifts *at Bargain Prices*

OPERA GLASSES, as illustrated above, with first quality lenses, body leather covered, best japanned finish, complete with crush leather case. Height closed 3 ins.; width 4½ in. Offered at below manufacturing cost. **BLOOM'S PRICE**

A LIMITED NUMBER ONLY. **20/-**

Also a good selection of Opera Glasses, Field Glasses and Prism Binoculars at all prices.

Monoculars (Coerz) 4 x 20 reduced from 50/- to **35/-**
Reading Glasses - - from 9/6
Horn Box Magnifiers - ,, 1/6
Barometers - - - ,, 15/6
Nickel Hunter Compass with luminous floating dial at **5/6**

A wide selection of Spectacle and Eye-Glass Cases, Lorgnettes' Ear Chains, Clinical Thermometers, House Thermometers, etc.

BLOOM'S
to help a nation's vision

OPTICAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC GIFT CATALOGUES POST FREE FROM

Head Office and Works: 7, Ridgmount Street, London, W.C. 1.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT LONDON & PROVINCES.

See Front Cover—for JOHN BULL'S Christmas Gift to YOU.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

(This space is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.)

To His Majesty the King.

SIR,—May I, on behalf of the large section of the public in whose name I have a right to speak, tender to you our sincere and respectful felicitations upon the prospect, at long last, of Irish peace? We hope the coming year will see your Majesty and the Queen open the All-Ireland Parliament in state, and that on his return from India the Prince of Wales may be able to make a tour of the country. If, added to these things, Princess Mary would make a home in your Emerald Isle, what a splendid thing it would be! Your ever faithful and obedient servant, JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, P.C., M.P.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,—I had hoped to be in a position to congratulate you to-day on a definite end of the Irish problem. Unfortunately, however, the sinister figure of Mr. de Valera has suddenly appeared upon the scene—I always suspected a motive for his absence from the Conference—and there is just the possibility of a temporary hitch. I still hope, however, soon to be able to felicitate you on what I am sure you will regard as the crowning triumph of your remarkable career. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. Lt.-Col. Sir Hamar Greenwood, P.C., M.P., Chief Secretary for Ireland.

MY DEAR HAMAR,—To you, too, a word of praise. Whether we agree with every item of your policy or not, no one can deny that you are the most courageous Chief Secretary who ever took office. How many times you went in peril of your life you know—and you know that I know; but you never flinched. And now your reward would appear to be at hand—in which case I hope the rumour of your coming promotion to the Home Office will be fulfilled. We sorely need a Minister there with a little of the milk of human kindness. JOHN BULL.

To "President" de Valera, Dublin.

SIR,—And just a word to you. From the moment you decided to abstain from taking any part in the Peace nogotiations, I suspected some sinister thought at the back of your mind; and although I have no doubt that the Sinn Fein delegates kept in fairly close touch with you during their progress, and acted in the firm belief that you would honour their decision, I cannot say that I am altogether surprised at the attitude you are now adopting. Drop it, and let's all be friends. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. William Winton Milngavie, Glasgow.

DEAR WILLIAM,—For an amateur, you have not done so badly. You composed your own Marriage Service, and it appears to have answered just as well as yards of rubric and a "fully choral" ceremony. Just five words, "Now you are my wife," and a ring was your modest effort. And it has lasted thirty years! But, as young couples will, you and your wife have had a tiff, and you repudiate the marriage, which, under Scots law, however, is held to be good. Why spoil a feat in nuptial knot-tying of which a professional marrier would be proud? Give yourselves another chance, and may the second attempt last a further thirty years! JOHN BULL.

To Misses Lilian Lambert and Dorcas Matthews, Newport.

MY DEAR LADIES,—No sort of record seem safe with your charming sex nowadays, and you have achieved the distinction of being the first women to enter Parkhurst Prison. It is true you went only to play and sing to the guests of His Majesty in that more or less "desirable messuage," and consequently, as you say, you did not feel nervous. Women are said to have little sense of humour, but I should think some of your audience must have been immensely tickled by your "There are Fairies at the Bottom of our Garden"! Why not have suggested "Let's all go down the Strand"?

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. J. H. Rogers, Schoolmaster, Woburn.

SIR,—You seem to have so well schooled yourself in meanness and spite that you must needs school in honesty your young maid—a girl who has been in the service of yourself and your wife for a year or more—by dragging her into a Police Court on the paltry allegation of taking away from your house, without authority, three cooked herrings and two apples, value 6d.; whilst you also charged her mother with receiving the goods. The local police evidently took up this precious case with a will; and after an Inspector and a Constable had discovered one of the applesin the possession of the mother, the fate of the prisoners was sealed, for Colonel Fenwick, Major Campbell, Mr. Edward Hart and Mr. A. L. McIntyre, Magistrates, bound over your unfortunate maid—the Chairman, although he referred to her as "a child," emulating one of your own spiritual exhortations at a Leighton Buzzard Men's Meeting on a Sunday afternoon. He also fined the mother £1, as the real villainess of the piece. So doth justice triumph, and so is the memory of the merciful blessed! JOHN BULL.

To Herbert Nevill, Junr., Steeplejack, Leicester.

DEAR 'ERB,—I have seldom read of a more foolhardy trick than that of yours in carrying your nine-months-old baby to the top of Hinckley Parish Church tower—a height of 200 feet—more especially since the rungs of the ladder up which you climbed were coated with ice. The fact that you are compelled to risk your life in the pursuit of your calling is no reason why you should put your helpless infant in similar peril. If you fancy you performed a plucky deed, you are labouring under a delusion. In my opinion, you were guilty of a senseless and wanton act of bravado. I cannot otherwise characterise the endangering of the life of a young child, wilfully and for no useful purpose.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Charles Monckton, Wimborne, Dorset.

KIND SIR,—Tax-gatherers have for so many centuries been made the target for darts of opprobrium and obloquy that it has given me intense pleasure to discover such a one as you. I find that, in tendering your resignation of the office of Assistant-Overseer of Wimborne, after fifty years' service, you were able to lay your hand on your heart and declare that you had never unduly pressed anyone for payment of rates, and had, in fact, often paid the rates yourself rather than that people should be sent to prison. Sir, you may be sure the Recording Angel has noted your generous disposition, but I wish the world of mortals to know it now. Hence these few lines. May you live long to enjoy your retirement in quiet contentment. JONN BULL.

To Ernest Aldridge, Fairhazel Gardens, Hampstead, London.

ROAD HOG,—You were brought up at Richmond Police Court for driving a motor-car at a furious speed during a dark night, and knocking down and injuring a cyclist. You were fined twenty pounds for dangerous driving, five pounds for failing to stop when called upon, forty shillings for not having proper lights, and fourteen shillings costs. In addition, your licence was endorsed and suspended for six months. To complete your record the police put in twelve previous convictions against you, seven of which were for dangerous driving and excessive speed. Why you were not sent to prison "without the option" is a matter for the Magistrates to explain. I suppose when you have a fatality or two to your credit, the Justices will wake up to the fact that you are a public danger. JOHN BULL.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

Let's hope the rising sun of Peace,
That beams on Ireland's shore,
From giving warmth will never cease,
Nor e'er be clouded o'er.

All who for justice make a stand
Must come to one decision;
And that is this: to put their hand
To Wakeford's great petition.

Girls who delight—and why for no?—
In strenuous games of Soccer,
From the F.A. receive a blow
—Which might be called a shocker!

Though coals are much inclined to fall—
That is, regarding price—
The "Ring" the tumble will forestall
By some profound device.

See Front Cover—for JOHN BULL'S Christmas Gift to YOU.

SPORT AND SPORTSMEN: GLEANINGS FROM TRACK, FIELD, ROAD AND RING.

By "THE WAYFARER."

My "Twelve" Going Strong.

My "Twelve Horses to Follow" are having a successful time. Chin Chin won again at Gatwick, and Front Line scored at Sandown. Up to December 9 we have had five winners out of seven runners, as follows:—Chin Chin (evens and 6 to 4 on), Front Line (9 to 2), Most Beautiful (5 to 4), and Sir Huon (6 to 4). I repeat the list again this week, as they seem to be worth following:—

BON MARCHE	MILESIUS
CHIN CHIN	MOST BEAUTIFUL
FRONT LINE	NORTON
HAIRPIN II.	SIR HUON
HALBERDIER	SOUTHAMPTON
HOPEFUL BACHELOR	VERTIGO.

Successful Jockey-Trainer.

There are great hopes in the South Midlands that Willie Payne, the successful trainer-jockey of Farthingstone, will win the Grand National next March with Turkey Buzzard, who, after falling in the race this year, was remounted and finished fourth. Payne was, unfortunately, prevented from riding Turkey Buzzard on that occasion through breaking a collar-bone when Eager Simon fell at Newbury. Turkey Buzzard is undoubtedly the aristocrat of the Farthingstone stable, so successfully presided over by Payne (see sketch), who is one of those versatile individuals who not only trains his winners but rides them himself whenever the weight permits. Payne's stable jockey is F. Brookes, who is steadily making his mark as a rider.

The Welshers: A Warning.

I should like to warn every reader of these notes against the swarm of bogus "bookmakers" who are flooding the country with most pleasant reading literature, offering tempting conditions, but they never, never pay a winning bet. The JOHN BULL postbag every week is loaded with complaints against this man and that, but it is asking next to the impossible to track down these welshers, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred nothing can be done. The remedy is for backers to deal with reputable firms only who advertise regularly in the sporting Press—like the *Sporting Life*, for instance.

The Late W. A. Jarvis.

The death of the veteran trainer, W. A. Jarvis, recalls to mind those famous horses, Bona Vista, Saint Damien, Cyllene and Ravensbury, the great performers of many years ago. Ravensbury and Cyllene were trained by Jarvis for the late Sir C. D. Rose, but Ravensbury had the misfortune to be foaled in the same year as the mighty Isinglass, who beat him in the Two Thousand, Derby and St. Leger. At the stud Cyllene was a great success, and four of his sons (Cicero, Minoru, Lemberg and Tagalie) were all Derby winners.

V. Symth's Bad Luck.

It was unlucky for Victor Smyth that his mount Victor Noir should run up against Senhora in the Timberham Hurdle at Gatwick, for this was the flat race jockey's first ride "over the sticks," and he just failed to realise his ambition to ride a winner at the first attempt under National Hunt rules, and thus emulate the performance of the late Danny Maher and Steve Donoghue.

Cup Final Venue.

As I said in this column some weeks ago, this season's Cup Final will be fought at Stamford Bridge next April. The Wembley ground will be ready by 1923, and not before. There is not going to be any return to the Crystal Palace ground, the most commodious and at the same time most unsatisfactory enclosure in the Kingdom from a spectator's point of view. The management of the Palace could not, on bended knee, persuade the F.A. to return to Sydenham again. Nor will the Crystal Palace club do so. They are quite satisfied where they are.

Much Ado About Nothing.

I cannot understand why all this fuss has been made about the F.A. ban on women's football. The women have still got a right to play, if they want to; only it must be on grounds not controlled by clubs in association with the F.A. The governing body do not like women's football; they regard it as a parody of the sport which they control, and they have a perfect right to say what they like in discouragement of it. Besides which, there is clear proof that behind some of the so-called charity games played by women's teams is somebody who has had a nice little monetary picking. They have too literally applied the saying that "charity begins at home."

'Tis Goals That Count.

As it is goals that win matches, it is quite probable that the English International Selection Committee will be forced to play Charles Buchan at centre forward against Wales at Liverpool next month. Buchan may not "fit in" with a representative attack, but he has been wonderfully consistent in scoring for Sunderland. The old club that gave him birth, Leyton, is long since defunct. A sort of lethargy seems to have seized the sporting spirit in the district, and it will take all the efforts of the Army Sports Board to raise local interest now they have acquired the Essex C.C. ground.

Do Goalkeepers Ever Die?

Here is another instance of the "longevity" of goalkeepers. Thomas Thorpe, who is now keeping goal for Barnsley once more—and keeping it very well—left the Yorkshire club twelve years ago because they would not pay him more than £3 a week. He hadn't re-signed on April 30th, and on the morning of May 1st, before six o'clock, he put his head out of his bedroom window at Attercliffe and saw Herbert Chapman waiting on the doorstep. Chapman signed him up for Northampton, and there he stayed until he turned a Boniface in Yorkshire.

Jerry Shea goes North.

The lure of the Northern Union has at last proved too strong for Jerry Shea, the Welsh international footballer and Newport three-quarter. Wigan F.C. have secured him for a four-figure sum. It probably means that Shea will have to do less boxing.

A Football Paradox.

Though Soccer enthusiasts outnumber Rugby adherents in this country by ten to one, the meetings of the 'Varsities at both codes furnish a paradox. Interest in the encounter at Twickenham was intense; compared with it, no one seemed to care what happened at Stamford Bridge on Monday. The Rugger match was a proud day for E. Campbell, the Oxford captain, whose sketch I give. The Scotsman played probably the best game of his life, and he had magnificent help from his co-half-back, the tall Queenslander, T. Lawton.

Where the N.S.C. Fails.

There are still people who think that the N.S.C. has a monopoly of staging boxing championships, but their number dwindles yearly, and soon the Club Committee will be in "splendid isolation." Whatever they say or think at so-called headquarters, I know what the public will hold if Billy Ames succeeds in bringing together Tommy Harrison, of Hanley, and Jim Higgins, the British bantam champion (see sketch), even if the contest does take place at Hanley.

Confidence of Cook.

It really does seem as if the Carpentier-Cook contest will be fought on January 12th, unless something very unexpected happens. At any rate, Carpentier is in England—which is a great thing—and, secondly, Cook will receive £1,000 if the fight does not come off. Cook is looking forward to the meeting with a confidence which is surprising to all but his intimate friends. One thing can be said in the Australian's favour: he will not leave himself "open" as Joe Beckett did at the Holborn Stadium.

Conservatism Run Mad.

There is nothing quite so conservative as the average member of the M.C.C. Advisory Committee, but there is something more than conservatism in their decision again to limit Test matches to three days when the South Africans and Australians are next in England; it is hidebound selfishness. The grounds at Lords, the Oval, Trent Bridge and Old Trafford (Yorkshire have other grounds besides Leeds) could easily be available six days together if the counties concerned would arrange their fixtures accordingly. County first; country second, seems to have been the motto. That is, of course, all wrong. Perhaps the M.C.C. will reverse the decision, but I fear not.

Picked Up by the Wayside.

A benefit is being arranged for Jem Smith, a heavyweight champion of England of the bare-knuckle days.

The draw for the first round proper of the F.A. Cup Competition will be held next Monday in London. The ties will be played on the first Saturday in January.

H. I. Ussher, the Irish trainer, has taken new quarters at Upavon, Wiltshire, for the jumping season. Look out for some winners from there in the near future!

Jimmy Wilde made his first appearance as a referee at the Ring, Blackfriars Road, the place where he first boxed in London.

Boy McCormick's damaged eye—it was cut in his contest with Kid Lewis—will keep him out of the ring for a couple of months.

The crack French 'chaser, Heros XII., is likely to come to England to run for the Grand National next March.

Bedelia, who won a good race over hurdles at Kempton Park, was bred by the ex-jockey Billy Higgs, and was bought by Mr. Aitken for a mere 35 guineas after failing on the flat at Nottingham.

It is reported from America that Carpentier and Tom Gibbons will meet in New York on March 1st. Tex Rickard, who ran the Dempsey-Carpentier affair, is promoting the fight.

Seven times in succession have St. Albans City been drawn away from home in the F.A. Cup. Gillingham should prevent a continuance of the series when the clubs meet.

Why do professional billiard players seem so fond of indulging in newspaper controversy instead of talking matters over quietly between themselves? Is the answer to be found in the reply "Self-advertisement"?

All queries relating to sporting matters dealt with on this page should be addressed to the Editor of "Sporting Life," in which paper answers will be given.

ALL Sports Records in "THE SPORTING LIFE COMPANION"—Now on Sale, 6d.

PEACE PACTS AN

Keep an Eye on Uncle Sam—Palaver, Poison a

By THE ED

WELL, I suppose it is time we got back to politics, and I want, this week, to pay a little attention to the palaver that has been going on among the big-wigs at Washington, upon which I have read somewhere "the whole future of the human race may depend." It sounds very important, doesn't it, and although perhaps the Man-in-the-Street is not too apt to take these highflown statements at their face value, I think we ought to try to get to the bottom of this extraordinary business. I may be forgiven if I stick to the plain facts and decline at present to indulge in sweet-sounding variations of the soothing refrain of Peace, Perfect Peace. For the moment, as our Yankee friends say, we will "cut out the sob stuff," and look without flinching at the stern realities of the situation. Less than three years ago, after an armed struggle of unparalleled ferocity, we made peace with our Continental enemies upon the basis of President Wilson's Fourteen Points. As part and parcel of the Peace Treaty, the British Government signified its adhesion to the Covenant of the League of Nations—a patent Wilsonian nostrum, which was to banish war for ever and sow sweet amity and concord among the peoples of the earth. Then there was a hitch somewhere and, in spite of Wilson's dream, the United States Government declined to ratify the Treaty or the Covenant, and declared in effect that, for all they cared, the League of Nations might go a lot farther than Geneva. And there ended the first chapter!

Enter Mr. Harding.

It is essential to remember these facts if we are to understand what is happening at Washington. I confess that when, a couple of years ago, I heard that the United States Senate had declined to honour the bond of President Wilson and turned their backs on the Treaty of Versailles—which was practically made to his order—I felt and spoke strongly on the subject, and made no effort to conceal my opinion that we had been "sold a pup." I feel certain, moreover, that in writing as I then did I was voicing the sentiments of the average British citizen, who has been inclined ever since to look rather suspiciously at Uncle Sam, and to question the sincerity of his protests in the cause of international peace. In the common phrase, we have "had some," and when I heard that President Harding in his wisdom had summoned the Powers to a Conference at Washington, I was certainly not prepared to throw my hat into the air and sing a hymn of thanksgiving. I preferred, like a certain British Prime Minister—upon an historic occasion—to "Wait and see"; and if for some time I have waited in silence, it is because I have seen no reason to alter my view. There has been a good deal of vague castle-building, and I sincerely hope that the day is coming when it may be possible for mortals to inhabit these palaces of delight, but before we indulge in such aspiring feats of political architecture we had better make sure that the foundations are sound.

My Own Position.

I suppose the trouble is that I am an unregenerate Britisher, an unrepentant patriot—with no love for any other country which is comparable with that I bear my own. I deeply respect France for her great sacrifices in the War, and for her firm and unalterable adhesion to the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles; I recognise to the full the loyalty of Japan in the discharge of her Treaty obligations and the wonderful strides she has made in the race of civilisation. I am anxious, moreover, that at all times we should preserve friendly relations with the great American Republic. Yet if we come to speak of love and devotion, and of those principles of allegiance which stir the depths of the soul, it is a case with me of Britain first—and the rest nowhere. I make no apology for this—it is just the way I am built; and the consequence is that whenever these questions of International relationship crop up I have one thought, and one only, in my mind—which is to ensure that, whatever happens, the security and honour of the British Empire shall be not merely safeguarded, but placed beyond the range of attack. In considering these naval problems, I start there and stick there. I decline to gamble with the security of our great maritime power on any nebulous mathematical basis of seven to five, or three to two, in the ratio of first-class battleships. To my mind, it is as dangerous and suicidal for an Empire like ours to stake its fortune upon these speculative bargains in warship construction as it would be for a man to hazard his whole material wealth upon a single throw of the dice. It is extraordinary that at this time of day it should be necessary to reiterate the most elementary axioms in the creed of national defence. The ocean is our life. The highways of our history—in the past and in the future—are upon the Seven Seas. There is no help for it. It is written in the Book of Destiny. The one maxim that should govern our policy, shape our diplomacy, determine our international relationships, guide the present and mould the future, is that on the wastes of ocean the fleets of Britain shall ride supreme.

The Cart Before the Horse.

In my judgment, the Washington delegates began at the wrong end. The first talk should have been about policy, for if only the Great Powers could first succeed in removing the difficulties in the Pacific and elsewhere which block the road to a sound international understanding, the question of armaments would tend in due course to solve itself. At first this blunder threatened to mar the whole proceedings. It was as though two men equipped for personal combat were to postpone the discussion of their quarrel till they had both disarmed, the likelihood being that when they did come together to talk things over, one would hit the other over the head with anything that came handy. For disarmament is not synonymous with peace. It is idle to think that you can abolish war by scrapping battleships. It is the illusion that war can be stopped by flinging away some of its weapons that has been responsible for the failure of successive Hague Conferences, and which may still serve to reduce the Washington

Said Old Mars to the Younger Mars, "The times are very bad; If this comes off it means, I fear, the death of me, my lad."

...ND UGLY FACTS.

...on and Politics—Hands Off the British Navy!

...E EDITOR.

palaver to the same level of futile ineptitude as others of its kind which have passed in dismal procession into the limbo of forgotten things. The truth is that as long as on bitter occasion men hate each other, they will find means of hurting each other. Therefore I take leave to suspend judgment in regard to this wonderful "Quadruple Pact" between the four Great Powers—if only for fear lest it prove just another "scrap of paper," someday perhaps to serve no better purpose than to make a bonfire of Civilisation. It is easy enough to plan, on paper, a world at peace; but whilst the elemental passions of mankind remain, there will be found means to exchange the word for the blow. The Millennium is not yet.

The Vapours of Vengeance.

If the German chemical manufactories on the Rhine could give up their secrets there would be a tale to tell. If we had sense enough to *make* them give up those secrets, we might save our children from the vile and unspeakable horrors which at this very moment are being fashioned in the laboratories of the scientist. It is, perhaps, just as well that we should get a clear idea of what the next war—when it comes—is going to be like. It needs no expert knowledge and none but the most ordinary powers of imagination to forecast the terrors of the future. Unless war can be ruled out of account, and it is much too early to say that this miracle has been achieved, we shall have to reconcile ourselves to a prospect which may well appal the stoutest heart. Where the machine-gun and rifle slew their thousands, the poison bomb and lethal gas-projector will destroy their millions. The old distinction between combatants and non-combatants—dishonoured in the last war—will be laughed to scorn in the next.

"Well, never mind," replied the youth; "if your day's work is done, it's comforting to know that mine has only just begun."

I wonder what paper agreements or parchment bonds the Washington Conference is going to propose in regard to the manufacture of poison-gas and the whole apparatus of chemical destruction that promises to change the entire face of warfare in the years to come. The tendency of all such schemes of armament limitation as those under discussion at the moment is to set the best brains in every country planning and plotting to outwit the statesmen, and outstrip the technical limits of agreement between the contracting Powers. Nor is this the only practical difficulty. How are the decrees of the Washington Conference to be enforced? What is going to happen to the nation that breaks its word and plots in secret to gain an unfair advantage in the event of hostilities? Are we going to make war on its people and so punish them for the faults of their rulers? Are we going to make war in order to secure that war shall never be made? The whole thing becomes Gilbertian, and demonstrates to any reasonable mind the utter impracticability of such attempts to secure by contract signed and sealed that immunity from organised bloodshed which has been the dream of poets through the ages and remains among the most cherished ideals of the race. When will our politicians realise that it is not by material means, but only through the moral and spiritual regeneration of the peoples, that war can be banished and the ploughshare exalted in place of the sword?

The True Policy.

What, then, is the upshot of the matter? Are we to resign ourselves to pessimism, and believe that men in their moments of madness will go on slaughtering each other until the end of time? Purposely, I have spoken of the next war in terms of stern warning. I say deliberately that when it comes, it will—according to all present indications—resolve itself into an indiscriminate and wholesale slaughter of the warring nations without distinction of age or sex. There will be no immunity for women and children. The poison gas, which in the opinion of the most reliable experts is destined to be among the chief weapons of the future, knows nothing of chivalry, nothing of compassion, nothing of Geneva Conventions—and will know nothing, may I add, of Washington agreements. The next war will be a war of secrets and surprises. Again, there is no help for it. You may have paper agreements by the bushel, treaties and protocols by the hundredweight, conventions and understandings by the score—only to find when you get to death-grips with the foe that your men, women, and children are being slain by devices you never dreamt of and tortured by scientific devilries which it never entered into the mind or imagination of the Washington Conference to discuss. You cannot have an international police force to go prying into the conduct of every modern industry in every land to see if by any chance there has been a breach of international agreement. Besides, if you did find anything wrong, the only remedy is force. And that would, or might, lead to war.

Each for Each.

What, then, does it come to? I am afraid I have no wonderful solution to propose; but then, you see, I am not an up-to-date politician, but merely a plain, blunt man with, I hope, the saving gift of common sense. And, looking at the whole problem by the light of nature, I think the best rule for every nation in these difficult times is to mind its own business and not go careering about the world in pursuit of "mandates" and other fancy schemes for poking unwanted noses into the affairs of other people. I am old-fashioned enough still to believe in Nationalism as a political creed—which for us in Great Britain means that we should put our own house in order before entering into high-falutin schemes for the regeneration of mankind as a whole. What we need, it seems to me, is to keep our defences in order, and especially to maintain the British Fleet at its present high level of strength and efficiency, and at the same time to enter into such a measure of agreement with our tried and trusted friends as will guarantee us against any outburst of hostility upon the part of our enemies—old or new. A firm understanding with France is, in my opinion, essential, and a friendly agreement with America no doubt eminently desirable. But I say: Hands off the British Navy! We may yet need our "sure shield."

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

THE PRIME MINISTER.

"GOO' arfternoon, Mister Lloyd George. I'm sorry to see you lookin' a bit tired, but it ain't to be wondered at. You've 'ad a tryin' time, if anybody 'as, and I reckon you could do with a rest. . . . 'Air cuttin'? Yes, sir. The old chair, if you don't mind. . . . 'Ow are yer feelin' in yerself, sir? . . . *A bit depressed?* No, don't say that, Mister George. An' yet, I dunno. Very orfen, w'en a man's pulled a big thing orf, wot 'e's bin workin' at p'r'aps for years, a sorter reaction sets in, an' 'e gits a touch o' the blues, although 'e knows all the time thet 'e 'asn't got no reason to feel low. You kinder misses the excitement of the fight, so ter speak, an' goes slack, until somethink else gits a grip on yer. . . .

* * *

Well, sir, I s'pose you've jest done the biggest thing in your perlitical career, an' I congratulates yer. Peace with Ireland! W'y, it don't 'ardly seem possible, arfter wot 'as 'appened—arfter the blood wot's bin spilt, an' arfter the feelin's wot's bin roused. I on'y 'ope it'll be permanent—thet's all. I don't know w'y it shouldn't be. It was in the case o' the Transvaal an' the Oringe Free State, an' the Boers was more foreigners to us then wot the Irish are. At the same time, Mister George, I don't reckon the Irish Free State 'll larst. . . . Thet's my opinion. . . . *Wot do I base it on?* W'y, I don't reckon a little nation like the Irish 'll find it pays 'em to run on their own, an' it wouldn't surprise me if before many years is passed they will petition the British Guv'ment to restore 'em to their old position in the United Kingdom. Meantime, let 'em carry on, I ses. Let 'em feel their feet. Let 'em realise wot it means to carry the 'ole responsibility for their selves. I wish 'em luck, an' all thet; but it seems to me they're givin' up more'n they'll gain. But you ain't to be blamed for thet. The 'orrible goin's on in Ireland 'ad to be stopped, an'—*pro tem.*, at any rate—you've stopped 'em, an' you're deservin' of all praise. I'm thinkin' of the 'elpless wives an' mothers wot are thankin' you in their 'earts to-day—wimmin wot until now was in a everlastin' fever of anxiety on account o' them they loved. On both sides, I mean. . . .

* * *

But I'll tell you wot you 'ave done besides, Mister—you've disappointed your perlitical enemies most 'orrible. If the Irish negotiations 'ad broke down, an' you 'ad gorn to the country, they reckon you would 'ave bin defeated an' they would 'ave 'ad a charnce. But the idea of a General Election makes 'em tremble now. They can see you bein' returned with a large merjority on the score of your Irish success; an' I fancy they won't be fur out w'en the time comes. Becos, if this 'ere peace proves permanent, it means big things—the savin' of millions o' pounds and a boom in trade wot'll make pre-war prosperity look silly. I s'pose you'll be offered a peerage, Mister George. . . . *You suppose you will?* . . . Well, will you take it? . . . *You must 'ave notice o' thet question?* . . . Well, I don't suppose you're ambitious in thet direction, but sometimes a man is influenced by 'is wimminfolk. They think o' the children an' their future, an' 'ow nice it would be for their eldest son to be a lord w'en pa dies. . . . Oh, well, sir, we shall see. Any'ow, I wish yer luck, wotever you decide to do. Goo' day, sir.

EXTRA TURNS.

BY PUBLIC PATTERERS.

Mr. HARRY PRESTON.

I'm Harry Preston, the Brighton King!
I go in for sport like anything!
But the game I love, my jolly toughs,
Is a nice little bout of fisticuffs!
Give me the mitts, and I'm happy, quite,
As I lead with my left, and punch with my right!
In a friendly spar I'm quite at home,
Especially under Brighton Dome.
But what most pleasure gives to me
Is to do these stunts for charity;
For I'm Harry Preston, the Brighton King,
In whose opinion *sport's* the thing!

PATTER: Ah, my bonny boys—and bonnier girls—sport's the thing! It keeps you brisk in body and clean in mind. For to do anything worth doing you've got to train, you know. And to train to any effect you must live a decent life. I know. I've had some. I've put it to the test. How else do you suppose I could have gone through my exhibition boxing bout with Monsieur Descamps the other night at Brighton Dome? I'm really in the prime of life and ready for anything. To-day I'm—well, it doesn't matter how old I am. I'm as young as I feel. Another thing about sport, my friends, is that it conduces to good fellowship. Friendly rivalry is one of the finest trainings for the temper possible to imagine. A true sportsman tries and likes to win, but he doesn't gloat over his defeated opponent or rival. He is more inclined to help him—after the contest is over. And that is another characteristic of a true sportsman; he is always ready to lend a helping hand to those who are down and out or in difficulties. I don't want to chuck bouquets at myself, but that's a thing I've always tried to do. Well, we raised five thousand pounds for the Royal Sussex County Hospital and the Alexandra Hospital for Children, the other night. Of course the chief attraction was the two-round contest between Descamps and me. But between you and me, that hypnotic manager of Carpentier's didn't play quite fair. He hit the referees more than he hit me, and finished up with going for me with an Indian club—made of rubber, it's true; but, it stung! I am of the firm opinion that if he hadn't done that, we should not both have been disqualified. However, I know my footwork was very much admired. . . . No, don't call me Sir Harry. It hasn't come off yet, you know, and I'm not sure that I shall accept it if it does. Some quite celebrated men have been contented to remain plain mister—Gladstone, for instance, Balfour, and Lloyd George—and it is quite possible I may be satisfied to continue as

Harry Preston, the Brighton King,
Who goes in for sport like anything!
And who, more than other excitements, loves
A friendly spar with the boxing-gloves!
Give me the mitts, and I happy am
As I punch and upper-cut, jab and slam!
Time saps strength, but it's left the will—
And at boxing I'm more or less useful still!
But what most pleasure gives to me
Is to do these stunts for charity!
For I'm Harry Preston, the Brighton King,
In whose opinion SPORT'S the thing!

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"AUCKLAND AND COUNTY CHRONICLE":—"He had only ENJOYED INDIFFERENT HEALTH for some time past."

"Y Llan and Church News":—"Mrs. Davies . . . catered for the bodily wants of the players, by making and providing an abundance of delightful and LOATHSOME cakes and delicacies."

"NELSON LEE LIBRARY":—"'By gum!' I shouted, in terror, and DUMB WITH HORROR."

"BUCKS EXAMINER":—"Slough have given Chesham some BITTER BILLS TO SWALLOW—Chesham have WIPED ONE OFF THE SLATE."

"BATH AND WILTS CHRONICLE":—"The funeral of Mrs. —— —— ON THE RECREATION GROUND, on Saturday; KICK-OFF at 3."

"IZEDBURY REPORTER AND GUARDIAN":—"Cruelty to a HORSE. . . . Mr. ——, veterinary surgeon, said he examined the MAYOR and said he found the sore as stated by Supt. ——."

"DAILY MAIL":—"The MURDERED policemen . . . were found in the corridor of the prison a few yards apart. Beyond being bound and gagged, they were UNINJURED."

"ANSWERS":—"From the HUSHED woods came STRANGE CRIES, WEIRD AND WILD."

SOMETHING TO MAKE A SONG ABOUT.

WHAT THE PUBLIC SAYS.

The Publishers of the JOHN BULL Song and Dance Annual have sent us the following interesting letter, chosen from many others:—

> I beg to state I have bought JOHN BULL Song and Dance Annual, and I think it is wonderful value for the money. Although a war invalid (100 p.c.) (I cannot sing or dance), I am very often invited to house parties. One evening when music flagged a little, I introduced JOHN BULL Annual, and it has become very popular amongst my circle of friends, who also think it is wonderful value for money.

The letter says all that can be said about the Annual's good value and, obviously, even those who do not dance or sing can derive enjoyment from it. Twenty-five numbers are included.

We are also informed that on December 16th, £50 will be awarded in Dance Prizes in conjunction with the Palais de Danse, Hammersmith, from the Manager of which full particulars can be obtained.

OUR ADVERTISEMENT PAGES.

The Government have released nearly two million men's woollen under-garments, which are being offered to our readers at the very low price of 5s. each by the purchasers, Messrs. Bolsom Brothers, who recently, with the help of JOHN BULL, succeeded in bringing down the price of boots. The value is exceptional.

Great as is the demand for S. A. Barry & Co.'s made-to-measure clothing (announced on page 13), the strong feature of their service is prompt delivery. All goods which are ordered within the next few days will arrive in good time for Christmas.

Amongst other attractive bargains are:—

The Christmas Excursion facilities offered by the S.E. & C. Railway.

John Noble's ready-to-wear overcoats for 30s., carriage paid.

Cedar Shoe Co.'s men's and women's shoe bargains.

Ramont's pram covers and rugs, including a doll's pram cover for 1s. 6d.

Funk & Wagnall send interesting books on approval.

A new kind of teapot by R. Johnson & Co., Ltd.

There are many others—all useful to our readers—and each is covered by the Guarantee on page iii. of cover.

PUT down 2d and TAKE the best Sunday picture paper—SUNDAY ILLUSTRATED.

SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

12/- per line. (Minimum 3 lines.)

REAL HARRIS and Lewis Homespuns, direct from makers; best quality only; patterns free.—Harris Tweed Depot, James Street, Stornoway.

DO YOU ADVERTISE?—Your advertisement inserted in 58 provincial Newspapers for 7/10. London and Suburban Series same price.—Write for prospectus, Central Press Series (Dept. 60), 190, Strand, London, W.C.2.

A GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working men in regular employment to supply Boots, Clothing, Drapery, Watches, Jewellery, Cutlery, Gramophones, cash or credit. No outlay. Liberal supply of Samples. Highest commission.—Freemans, Govt. Contrs., Lavender Hill, London.

£5 to £10 weekly can be easily earned for a small outlay of 30/-; no previous experience necessary.—Write for particulars to H. Lovaine (Dept. J.B.), 143, Houndsditch, London.

AN OVERCOAT TURNED SUCCESSFULLY.—Book and prices.—Write Invisible Repair Co., Dept. J.B., St. Martin's Court, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

LADIES, save money, make your own gloves, hats, Dorothy bags, table centres. I sell nice leather in all colours at 1/3 per sq. ft. Send 2d., additional envelope, full set patt.—Catt, Leather Merchant, Northampton.

"CATALOGUE, PLEASE." — This little message will bring you the greatest Money-Saving Guide ever published. Cycles, Tyres, and Thousands of Accessories.—H. Fitzpatrick (Dept. 52), Burnley.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.—Semi-skilled men for training and skilled tradesmen for many trades required, including vulcanisers, motor drivers, fitters, etc. Ages 18 to 38 ex-Servicemen and 18 to 28 civilians. Men over 30 must be skilled. Pay commenced at rates between 3/- and 5/6 per day, according to trade. Marriage allowance paid to married men of 26 years of age and over, with allowance for children.—For particulars, write, stating age, or call, Inspector of Recruiting, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2; or R.A.F. Recruiting Depots, Crown Bldgs; James Watt St., Birmingham; or 298, Bath Street, Glasgow; or 11, St. Anne Street, Liverpool; or 15, Old Town Street, Plymouth.

AUTOMATIC Rug-Machine. Makes wool or cloth rug in an hour. Forms profitable hobby. Extra strong. Price 2/9 (postage 3d.).—Send now, 3/- P.O. to E. J. E. and Co. (Dept. J.B.), 682, Holloway Road, London, N.19.

A B C GUIDE to Drapery & Remnant Trade, Worth Pounds. For Shopkeepers, Dealers and Beginners. Big Stocks of Prints, Hosiery, Ladies' Overalls, Towels, Sheets, Travellers' Samples, etc. Genuine bargains. Make money. Big Catalogue Free. Write to-day.—Cochrane's Warehouse, 1, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

SHOES.—Officers' plain-fronted, black box or tan, Gov. surplus; if you paid 35/- it would be impossible to obtain better material. Ideal walking shoes, golf, etc., 12/6, post 1/-.—Nuttall (J.B.), Goodmayes, E.

"A CHANCE for you!" Take a rapid course in Mail Order Trading and be your own master. £5 can be made to yield £500 a year.—Write for particulars, (Dept. M5), Shaw Inst., 37, Red Lion Street, London, W.C.1.

XMAS GIFTS.—Real Playing Japanese Fiddles (with bows), 1/6, 3/6 and 5/6. Model Aeroplane, 4/3.—Bristol Model Aeroplanes, Eastville, Bristol.

HOW to make GERMAN MARKS dividend earning. Send 2d. for Illustrated Booklet to Dept. B.J.), London and County Trust, Ltd., 56, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.2.

AMUSING SURPRISES.—8 lections from 2/6. Also comic wigs, tricks, puzzles. Lists 2d.—F. DAVIS, 269, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1.

LONDON TURF EXPRESS, 6d., Tuesdays.—Racing and Football. "John Bull" £2,000 Prize aids. Obtainable Smith's stalls. Direct (6d.) from 55, Red Lion St., W.C.1, or newsagent. (No. 1 a huge success!)

DON'T spoil your evenings stitching up rags in clothes. "Mend-a-Tear" will see to all that in two minutes, with just a hot iron. Send 2d. stamp for free sample. Leicester Rubber Co., Ltd., 25, Granby Mills, Leicester.

LEARN Dutton's 24-hour Shorthand. Secure speed of 150 words per minute. First lesson free.—Dutton's College (J.), Skegness.

A MONEY-MAKING SCHEME.—Write to us for particulars, we will show you how to earn a good income every week by selling boots on commission.—Maximum Shoe Co., Ltd., Dept. 92, Maximum Works, Northampton.

KINEMA STAR XMAS CARDS.—Set of six charming hand-coloured Xmas Greeting Cards, with photogravure portraits of Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, Pearl White, Owen Nares, Violet Hopson, and Stewart Rome. Complete with plain greetings, tied with coloured cord, and six plain envelopes.—Price 1/6, post free, from "Pictures" Salon, 88, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA Friendly Society. Est. 1843.
Profits Divided amongst the Policy Holders.
Claims Paid £16,300,000
Invested Funds... £9,500,000
Annual Income... £3,500,000
All our Branch Offices and Agents transact National Health Insurance. ARTHUR HENRI, Secretary.
Chief Office. ST. ANDREW ST., LONDON, E.C.4.

CHARLES CHAPLIN
(THE CINEMA KING) IN HIS
ALL-WOOL BARRY OVERCOAT

Here is direct, conclusive proof of our ability as Mail-Order Tailors. It indicates why we undertake to refund more than you actually have paid us if we fail to fit you perfectly from self-measures:—

When CHARLIE CHAPLIN, the Cinema King, was in London, we waited upon him personally with an overcoat which we had cut and tailored merely from seeing and studying a Charlie Chaplin picture-card. We solemnly declare this to be the truth and will pay £1,000 to any charity if the test is not as stated.

Mr. CHAPLIN in this picture is seen at the Ritz Hotel, London, in his BARRY OVERCOAT. The overcoat was tried on before a representative gathering of Pressmen, and was declared by Mr. CHAPLIN to be a perfect-fitting Coat in every respect. Note the fit of the collar, the fall of the lapels, the general lay of the body of the Coat. You will admit it is perfection. We declare that the photograph is untouched in any of these details, and that, excellent as it is, it does not really do full justice to the actual perfection of Mr. CHAPLIN'S Coat as it appeared before these Pressmen.

J. DIMMOCK (Tottenham Hotspurs) in his ALL-WOOL BARRY SPORTS COAT
An actual photograph

We can fit you as well as we fitted Mr. Charles Chaplin.

A £6-6-0 PURE SCOTTISH WOOL OVERCOAT to Measure for £3-3-0

The gilt-edged security of the Scottish Woollen Association is behind the Cloth.

HERE IS THE SCOTTISH WOOLLEN GUARANTEE

A £3-3-0 All-Wool Guaranteed SPORTS COAT TO MEASURE 30/-

The finest value in the world. The best trimmings. The best cloth. The best finish ever offered anywhere in the world at the price.

AN UNPARALLELED GUARANTEE

If for any reason whatsoever you do not consider this 30s. Sports Coat to measure the finest value you have ever enjoyed, return the coat and we will refund not only the 30s., but 2s. 6d. more to compensate you for loss of time. That is the BARRY Guarantee. Dare we make such an offer, we ask, if we could not live up to what we claim? The same guarantee as to more than your money back applies to the overcoat, or, indeed, any garment ordered from S. A. BARRY & CO.

Other BARRY features are

£5 5 0 PURE WOOL OVERCOAT to measure for £2 17 6

£6 6 0 ALL WOOL BLUE SERGE SUIT, £3 10 0

Indigo-dyed, London shrunk, and Guaranteed ALL-WOOL, by BRADFORD CORPORATION TESTING HOUSE CERTIFICATE.

£4 4 0 YORKSHIRE TWEED SUIT to measure for £2 12 0

£12 12 0 BOND STREET DRESS SUIT for £6 6 0

SEND FOR FREE PATTERNS OF ALL THESE CLOTHS.

A Postcard will bring them per return promptly. Tweeds, Worsteds, Serges, Vicunas, Homespuns, etc., for your quiet consideration.

OUR SELF-MEASUREMENT CHART IS UNFAILING.

Whether you call or whether you send measures on one of our sure, unerring self-measuring charts, we guarantee to fit you as perfectly as we fitted Charlie Chaplin or J. Dimmock. There is positively no risk, otherwise we could not promise to refund you 2s. 6d. more than you pay in the event of our not carrying out our undertaking. No risk; no delay. Orders are faithfully delivered in seven days, whether you order by post or whether you call.

THE BARRY SERVICE IS UNIQUE IN TAILORING. CALL OR WRITE—

S. A. BARRY & CO.,

EXCLUSIVE MEASURE TAILORS

(J.B.), 16, City Road, London, E.C.1.
(Near Moorgate Tram and Tube Terminus).

TOMMY AND JACK.

OUR PLEDGE:—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheeseparing, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

To Tommy in Ireland: — Hurroosh! Now that the stramash is over you will be coming back to England, home, and beauty. Aren't you glad?

"Woodman, Spare That Tree!": — It is rumoured in the messes that when the Geddes axe falls the present Household Cavalry Brigade will become a composite regiment, consisting of a squadron each of the 1st and 2nd Life Guards, and of the Blues. What a reduction of glitter and glory!

The Irish Regiments: — Already the papers are asking, "What about the titles of the Irish regiments?" Tosh! The titles must remain Irish still. A leavening of Irishmen is not bad for our Army, as our military history shows, and we will always be in need of top-hole recruits.

Rotten Treatment: — Ninety men of the Worcesters came back from India recently to join a new battalion in Ireland. They naturally expected some home leave, but have been denied it until their time expires next year. Perhaps, in view of the last few days' events, however, they will now get it.

Drawing Our Teeth: — If the Washington Conference succeeds we shall build no more big warships for ten years, and many hundreds of naval officers will be "discharged to shore," mostly to take up commercial work, whilst thousands of bluejackets will find themselves "on the mud." But, crowning sorrow, we are told that Mr. Ford, who makes those popular motor-cars, wants to buy up all our out-of-date warships and those which will become obsolete, to turn them into penknives and two-seater run-abouts. The ghost of Nelson has tears in its one eye.

Jack's Money: — The award of Prize Bounty granted for the destruction of four German mine-sweeping destroyers by H.M. Ships *Calliope*, *Comus*, *Cordelia*, *Martial*, *Mischief*, *Mystic*, *Narwhal*, *Nonsuch*, *Parker*, *Radstock*, *Raider*, *Rocket*, *Romola*, *Rosalind*, *Rowena*, *Sabrina*, *Ulysses*, *Undine* and *Yarmouth*, on September 1st, 1917, is now ready for distribution in the Department of the Accountant-General.

Our Daily "Thank You":—From W. H. M. (Minette, Manitoba, Canada).—"Nine days after your acknowledgment of my letter asking your help, I received a line from the Ministry in reference to my letter to the Editor of JOHN BULL, acknowledging that my disability is due to military service. You did it in nine days, although I had been trying for 13 months. My thanks are indeed due to you; also those of my wife."

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

WINTER AND WANT.

TERRIBLE STRAITS OF A MOTHER OF SONS.

In a back street in the squalid district of Stratford Market, E., a respectable family, swept helplessly along in the dismal stream of poverty, are struggling hard to hold their heads above the dark waters that threaten to engulf them. The almost impossible task of keeping them afloat rests upon the shoulders of the mother, whose anxiety and distress are such as would appal all but the stoutest hearts. This unhappy family comprises eleven in number. Four are sons who served in the war, but now are almost entirely dependent on their mother for bread. One held the rank of sergeant for eight years, but having no home of his own, will be compelled to consign his wife—shortly expecting a child—to the care of his mother when she leaves the hospital where she is at present lying-in. So dire is the poverty of this home that it has been impossible to make any provision for the expected baby—not even of simple clothes in which to wrap it. For there are already a baby boy fifteen months old, two youngsters of seven years and one of thirteen; and the rest of the family are out of work!

BEDCLOTHES PAWNED FOR FOOD.

The fearful plight of this family will be appreciated when we say that even their bedclothes have been pawned for food, and that the younger children have neither shoes to their feet nor shirts to their backs—nothing, in fact, adequately to cover them. One of the ex-soldier sons has been forced to pledge his medals for food; and summonses are daily expected from the local school authorities in respect of the non-attendance of the children, who, famished and unshod, have been, of necessity, playing truant. What a mockery the spirit of Christmas seems in such a case! How impudent, too, appear the appeals on behalf of the alleged starving Russians in the face of such blasting poverty at home! For our own part, we have done what our Fund will allow on behalf of this distressed family—with the result, we trust, that a little sunshine will be introduced into their grey lives this Christmas. Of the genuine character of their distress we are convinced, and only wish that the sum at our disposal for charitable purposes were substantial enough to enable us once more to put this hapless family on their feet and give them a fresh start in life. It is heartrending to think of such unmerited distress in the midst of plenty. It is pitiful to imagine those shoeless children peering into the shop windows, gay with the good things of Christmastide, knowing them to be beyond their reach. Shall we appeal to our always generous readers in vain on behalf of such cases?

"SOMETHING ACCOMPLISHED."

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

War's Aftermath:—A man fought in some of our biggest battles, won the D.C.M., and was discharged on account of wounds. Now he has died, and his widow and two young orphans are left to face the world, their only income being 15s. parish relief weekly.

All Laid Up:—Out of work for over a year, a "Badger" has a poisoned heel, and his wife and child are ill in bed.

The Fate of the Poor:—A man has entered hospital for an operation, leaving outside his wife and five hungry and ill-clad children. Their only means are a weekly pension of 12s. 6d. The wife suffers from debility following confinement.

On the Rocks:—A master mariner—one of the numerous captains who cannot find ships—has been ashore for a considerable time. Now his condition is made worse by the illness of his widowed mother, whom he supports.

The Commonest Appeal:—"I have been out of work for a considerable time, and my wife expects to become a mother again in a few weeks. We have no money, and no clothing for the coming baby. If you give me a little assistance I shall be very thankful." Such letters by the dozen reach us weekly.

Clothe the Naked:—Appeals for clothing are growing in number—particularly for warm underclothing. The "open" weather has been a blessing to the poor, but we have yet to face what are usually the fiercest months of the winter.

WITH MANY THANKS.

"X. Y. Z." (Sutton), £5; E. B. (Southend-on-Sea), 5s. and parcel; J. J. (Newton Heath), £2; W. F. G. (Wakefield), 2s. and parcel; "A Widow's Mite," 1s.; H. H. G., 2s. 6d.; "In Memory of Bruce," 2s. 6d.; E. N. (Haywards Heath), 1s.; J. W. (Dawley), 1s.; A. K. R. (Withernsea), 5s.; C. E. P., 2s. 6d. and parcel; A. N. (Folkestone), 10s.; "Gleaca Keelie," 1s.; M. B., 9d.; G. W. W. (Dover), 1s.; T. B. M., 1s.; "Swwaneeh," £1; E. C. (Birkenhead), 1s.; Anon. (Ashington), 2s. 6d.; C. M. (Westbourne Grove), 2s. 6d.; "Soldier's Wife" (Luton), 2s.; Anon. (Talgarth), 5s.; Mrs. M. (Glossop), 2s. 6d.; A. C., 2s. 6d.; Anon., 3s.; Mrs. C. S. (Chiswick), 5s.; T. B. (Maryhill), 9d.; "Agnostic," 12s. 6d.; F. E. M. (Wolverhampton), 5s.; Anon. (Glasgow), 1s.; "A Few Admirers in Auld Reekie," 6s. 6d.; Anon. (Southampton), 2s. 8d.; H. B. (Southsea), 3s.; A. S. (Portsmouth), 2s. 6d.; "Constant Reader" (S. Ealing), 5s.; "In loving Memory of Harry," 5s.; K. W. (Edgbaston), 2s. 6d.; "Fusilier" (Aylesbury), 5s.; "An Old Soldier and His Wife," 10s.; Anon., 1s.; "Jack and Annie" (Wickford), 2s.; "Tom," 1s.; V. B. S. (Friston), 4s.; P. H. (Codford), 1s.; S. D. (Burton-on-Trent), 1s.; Pte. P. (Donegal), 1s.; T. C. (Thornton Heath), 1s.; Miss T. (Greenwich), 2s.; F. H. (Mansfield), 11s.; "Winnie and Dorothy" (Dumstable), 2s. 6d.; W. H. L. (Blackburn), £1; "Mary Ellen," £2 10s.; "Doreen," 3s. 6d.; Mrs. F. W. G. (Hayes End), 1s.; Mrs. A. J. (Stevenage), 2s.; "Whizz Bang" (Plymouth), 1s.; "Ilerre," 2s. 6d.; F. G. Y. (Loughborough), 10s.; M. C. (Heaton Moor), 7s. 6d.; E. G. (New York), 1 dollar; "A Well Wisher" (Bristol), 2s.; F. M. (Compeigne), 50 francs; C. E. G. (Edmonton), 1s.; T. W. (Much Wenlock), 1s.; Mrs. L. (Enfield Lock), 2s. 6d. and parcel; Anon. (Newcastle-on-Tyne), 1s. 2d.; F. D. (S. Reddish), 2s.; F. H. B. (Guildford), 2s. 6d.; "Target," 1s.; E. H. (Bath), 6d.; R. L. W. (Sheffield), £1; G. B. (Stokenchurch), 3s. 6d.; Mrs. H. (Alloa), 2s.; F. L., 2s.; R. P., 6d.; "One of Them," 6d.; H. C., 1s.; H. E. M., 1s.; G. E. S. (Reading), 6d.; "Ted" (Belfast), 1s.; J. H. (Lincoln), 6d.; "Bulleteering," 1s.

IS YOUR GIFT HERE?

OUR CHRISTMAS POOR FUND.

"A Well Wisher," 10s.; "Matt and Elsie," 10s.; "Sim" (Carluke), 1s.; "Bullet Tryer," 6d.; W. T. P., 2s. 6d.; E. G. B. (Gosport), £2.

"JOHN BULL'S" XMAS GIFT—YOUR LAST CHANCE!

SEND FOR YOURS TO-DAY

Readers who are desirous of availing themselves of the "JOHN BULL" Pen Gift Coupon, which is reproduced here, are particularly requested to send their applications immediately to ensure delivery in time for Christmas.

The Manager,

The "JOHN BULL" PEN Dept.

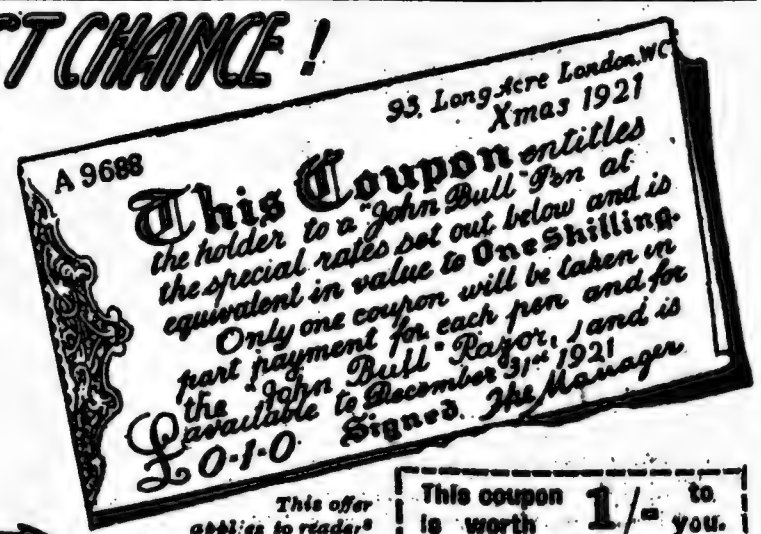
Long Acre, London, W.C. 2.

LIST OF MODELS:	Price.	WITH XMAS GIFT COUPON
No. 1. "Standard" Model ...	3/3	2/-
No. 2. "De Luxe" Model ...	4/3	3/3
No. 3. "Safety" Model ...	6/-	5/-
No. 5. "LEVER SELF-FILLING" MODEL ...	8/9	7/9
No. 6. "Screw Cap" Baby Model	4/9	3/9
The "JOHN BULL" Safety Razor, including 6 blades and stropping attachment	5/-	4/-

Postage and Insurance on each pen 3d. extra. Postage on Razor 6d. extra.

Pocket Clips 5d. each.

Every pen is fitted with a 14 ct. Solid Gold Nib, Iridium tipped.


A 9688
93, Long Acre London.WC
Xmas 1921
This Coupon entitles the holder to a "John Bull" Pen at the special rates set out below and is equivalent in value to One Shilling.
Only one coupon will be taken in part payment for each pen and for the "John Bull" Razor, and is available to December 31st 1921
£0-1-0
Signed. The Manager

This offer applies to readers in the British Isles only.

This coupon is worth 1/- to you.

See Front Cover for FREE half-guinea pen offer.

"JOHN BULL'S" Campaign against HIGH Prices!

Readers now offered underclothing of splendid quality at 5/- per garment!

5/- PER GARMENT

WOOLLEN VESTS. All have long sleeves — Supplied in 3 sizes: SMALL MEDIUM LARGE — 5/- Each.

WOOLLEN PANTS. To Ankle — Supplied in 3 sizes: SMALL MEDIUM LARGE — 5/- Each

Special quotations for large quantities for Clubs, Unions, etc. and for Wholesalers and Retailers.

BOLSOM BROS.' New Enterprise.

Just over a year ago, "John Bull," in co-operation with Messrs. Bolsom Bros., made a sensational offer to supply the public with New Army Boots at the then remarkable price of 20/- per pair. This offer, for a period, was limited to readers of "John Bull," who responded in their thousands, over 100,000 pairs being sold in a few weeks. Having broken the "Boot Ring," they now turn to another quarter in which high prices have been a source of great hardship to many.

ENTIRE SURPLUS OF NEW BRITISH GOVERNMENT UNDERCLOTHING SECURED

Once again "John Bull" Readers are offered a wonderful money-saving bargain—this time in the shape of Men's Underwear. Messrs. Bolsom Bros., having purchased the entire stock of New Surplus Army Underclothing, are offering same to Readers of "John Bull" at a price far below that at present charged for similar goods in the shops; while the quality is infinitely superior to present day so-called "cheap" underwear.

Special "JOHN BULL" Guarantee.

"JOHN BULL" guarantees that the Underclothing advertised on this page consists of new goods in excellent condition obtained direct from the Government. Also that the descriptions given are correct in every particular. The proprietors hold themselves responsible for the return in full of any money paid in the event of the purchaser finding legitimate grounds for dissatisfaction, provided the goods are returned, in condition in which they were received, within Three days.

Genuine BRITISH-MADE Goods.

Nothing better than these splendid British-made garments could possibly be imagined. They were made by foremost British Hosiery Manufacturers to withstand the rigors of a winter campaign, the name of the maker being plainly marked on every garment as a guarantee of quality.

The wintry weather has set in and here is a splendid opportunity for every man who reads this announcement to obtain at a price well within his means, that great *desideratum*—good, warm, durable underclothing.

It is a chance too good to be missed. Lose no time—get your order off *at once*.

Vest or Pants

5/- Per Garment

SPLENDID NEW ARMY GOODS IN PERFECT CONDITION SOLD WITH A GUARANTEE.

BOLSOM BROS. GOVERNMENT SURPLUS DEPOT, 129, Strand, London, W.C.

CUT OUT AND USE THIS COUPON TO-DAY

You can order these goods with perfect safety because the "John Bull" Guarantee of "satisfaction or your money back" is your protection.

"John Bull" COUPON

To Bolsom Bros. Government Surplus Depot, 129, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Date.....

Please send me the undermentioned goods, for which I enclose £..... plus postage, as shown below, total £.....

VESTS, SMALL..... VESTS, MEDIUM..... VESTS, LARGE.....

PANTS, SMALL..... PANTS, MEDIUM..... PANTS, LARGE.....

Name .....

Address .....

.....

POSTAGE AS FOLLOWS: One or two garments, 1½, 4 ditto 1/3, 6 ditto 1/9, 8 ditto 2/-. Orders in value over £2, carriage free.

Send remittance by Postal Order, Money Order, or Cheque by ordinary post crossed thus: & Co. BUT TREASURY NOTES MUST ALWAYS BE SENT BY REGISTERED POST.

This Coupon is to be posted or presented direct to BOLSOM BROS. GOVERNMENT SURPLUS DEPOT, 129, Strand, only, without which these Government Goods cannot be supplied.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By OUR CITY EDITOR.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Markets and Ireland.

The Stock Exchange is approaching the year end with a rapidly-increasing category of important "bull" points, such it looked for in vain during the earlier parts of the year. Apart from sentimental and trade considerations, the Irish peace news has interested the City chiefly because it means reduced national expenditure. This development and the intimation that big departmental economies are being forced by the Geddes' Committee, following upon the "naval holiday" proposals, indicates that cuts in national expenditure are about to be realised. Gilt-edged securities have been quick to note the change taking place in the situation, and prices have further risen, because investors realise that the security behind Government loans is increasing.

Mexican Railway Chances.

I have been consistently confident regarding Mexican Railway issues and other leading Mexican securities, and have been justified by events, but it is as well to sound a note of warning regarding the unduly optimistic reports, which are beginning to circulate, suggesting a resumption of interest payments on Mexican Railway Preference stocks in the immediate future. The Company's annual report is due this month, and it is hinted that some pronouncement on Preference interest will be contained in it. This is distinctly improbable. There are considerable arrears of Denbenture interest to be cleared up first, and the holders of First Debentures are always taking exception to Second Debenture holders receiving anything on account of their arrears yet. Next year interest on the Preferences may be in sight.

Grand Trunk Hopefulness.

The defeat of the Meighen Government in Canada in the General Election has raised hopes that the succeeding Administration may deal more charitably with Grand Trunk shareholders, and the quotations of the various securities have advanced in consequence. I am disposed to advise shareholders not to expect too much. It is true that the new Government will not have its hands tied by previous negotiations, and the election being over there is less need to play to the gallery at the expense of Grand Trunk proprietors. At the same time it will be remembered that it was the Canadian Liberal Party, now again returned to power, which proposed close reciprocity with the United States, and that does not augur sensitiveness to British susceptibilities in financial matters. The suggestion that the new Government, not believing in nationalisation, may cancel the acquisition of the Grand Trunk altogether, would certainly not be a "bull" point.

Tobacco Share Irregularity.

There was recently a rather sharp set-back in tobacco shares—on fears that reduced spending power, resulting from unemployment on the one hand, and increased cigar imports following the withdrawal of the special cigar import tax, on the other, would mean smaller sales of pipe tobacco and cigarettes. There was also selling on American account. Quotations have now taken a marked turn for the better, however, and the previous fall is regarded as having been overdone, especially in the case of British Americans, this Company doing a very big business in China, which the suppression of opium has helped.

A Curious Problem.

A correspondent propounds a curious problem. Years ago, he acquired Cumulative Preference shares in a large and well-known brewery undertaking, which was subsequently taken over by an important firm in the Midlands. The other shareholders were bought out, but my correspondent refused the offer to purchase his shares, regarding the price as a "knock-out" one. Since then he has received no interest. Presumably, it is within the discretion of the directors to decide not to declare a dividend, though in view of the fact that the Company earned £8,589 last year and the interest on the Preference shares absorbs only £1,200, the withholding of the dividend certainly lends itself to a critical interpretation.

A Decision Wanted.

That, however, is not this correspondent's chief point. He claims that, as these dividends are cumulative, the arrears ought to be set out as a liability in the Company's balance sheets. He wrote, on my advice, to the Company's auditors, who replied that in their view "dividends on Preference shares become a debt only after they have been duly declared and passed for payment." This may be so, although I propose to call the attention of the Institute of Chartered Accountants to the matter, and ask for a ruling in the interests of investors.

The Pound.

A welcome portent is the improved value of the pound sterling—an enhancement which we may fairly confidently predict will continue. The favourable progress of the Washington Conference and the imminence of an Irish settlement are, of course, contributing causes.

WINTER WISDOM:
Drink it at Breakfast and Supper and at 11 o'clock every morning.

Fry's
Pure Breakfast
Cocoa
with the favourite chocolate flavour.

Phillips 'Military'

SOLES & HEELS.

Men's Stout ...	5/6
,, Light ...	4/6
Youths'	4/-
Ladies'	3/-
Small Children's	2/-

per set.

Supplied with new type of light tacks for quick and easy fixing.

HEELS ONLY.

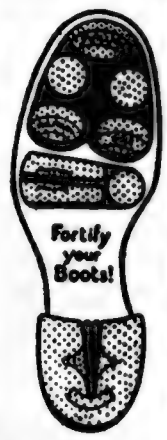
Men's Stout ...	2/-
,, Light ...	1/6
Ladies'	1/-

per pair.
FIXING EXTRA.

Keep your feet warm and dry in winter. Save pounds in a year.

Give ease and comfort to walking.

Phillips RUBBERS
"Last the time of three"

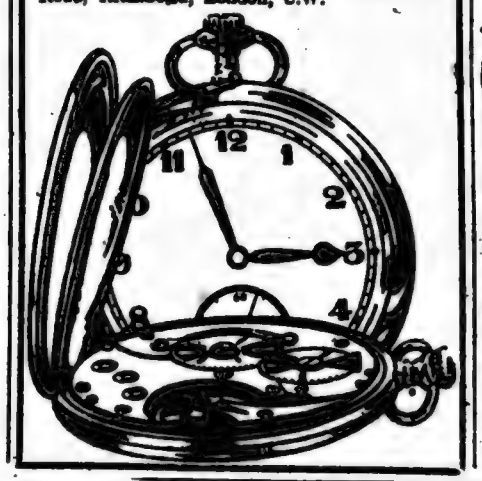


OF ALL BOOTMAKERS.

SURPLUS STOCK
OF
SOLID SILVER
English Hall-Marked
LEVER WATCHES
Fully Jewelled, Double Cased and Accurate Timekeepers
Honestly worth £3 3s. Reduced to 30/-
MOST REMARKABLE BARGAIN.

THIS is the most remarkable Watch Bargain ever offered—many thousands of similar Watches having been sold for £3 3s. upwards.

READ THIS STRIKING SPECIFICATION. Gent's High-Grade Lever Watch, Solid English Hall-marked Silver Cases, Highest Quality, fully-jewelled Lever movement, highly-tempered springs, perfectly balanced, with all modern improvements, accurate Timekeeper (as illustrated). Warranted for 15 years. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED—OR AMOUNT PAID RETURNED IN FULL, with 1/- extra to cover your expenses. Send Treasury Note, P.O., or Cheque To-day. All Watches despatched within 48 hours of receipt of order. SPECIAL OFFER.—As this stock is strictly limited, those who do not wish to pay in full may have one reserved on receipt of 2/6 only. The balance may then be paid as desired. SEND NOW to (Dept. 125), 205, Sandycombe Road, Richmond, London, S.W.



S E
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Cheap Return Tickets
VICTORIA (S.E. & C.R.)
TO

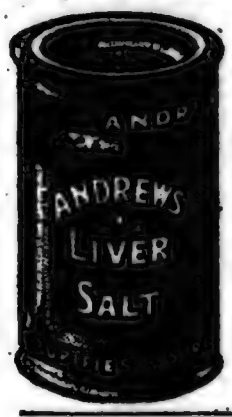
PARIS	£6/11
BRUSSELS (via Ostend)	30/7
BOULOGNE	23/-
OSTEND	30/3
CALAIS	23/-

Passports Essential.
For further particulars apply to Continental Traffic Dept., Victoria (S.E. & C.R.), S.W.1.
'Phone: Victoria 6180, Ext. 22.
P. C. TEMPEST.
General Manager.
C R

HOLDROYD'S GRAVEL PILLS
have no equal as a remedy for backache, gravel, lumbago, sciatica, gout, rheumatism, dropsy, kidney troubles. On sale for 40 years.
Hundreds of testimonials.
In boxes, 1/3 & 2/-, at BOOTS and all Chemists, or by post from the Proprietors,
HOLDROYD'S MEDICAL HALL, CLECKHEATON, YORKS.

The Tea-pot that *won't* be chipped
"It's the hardest thing out to fracture the Spout—It's a 'Cube.'"
Send for our free Booklet, "The Romance of a Tea-pot." Special Presentation Scheme.
R. JOHNSON & CO. (Leicester) LTD.,
(Dept. B London Rd., LEICESTER.

—and whatever else you may forget this Xmas, don't forget the tin of Andrews' Liver Salt! Xmas & Andrews' go together



Put a Tin on your List of Xmas purchases, for Andrews' has been part of Xmas for over 25 years now

At no other season of the year are personal brightness and cheer more needed, and Andrews' Liver Salt is *just the thing* to bring about the "Merry Xmas" outlook. It banishes the feeling of dull care arising from sluggish internal working, by the very simple operation of *removing* the cause.

When tone and vim are lacking in yourself, take Andrews'—an early morning dose for 2 or 3 days running; and if the children indulge too freely, as children will at Xmas time, a pleasant-tasting dose of Andrews' will quickly banish the pains that follow so much rich fare.

4 OZ., USUAL SIZE, 10½d. 8 OZ., FAMILY TIN, 1/6

12 small or 6 large Tin Lids can be exchanged free for the Andrews' Toothbrush up to Jan. 31, 1922. Andrews' Liver Salt is sold by Chemists, Grocers and Stores throughout the United Kingdom. Trade enquiries should be directed to:

SCOTT and TURNER, Ltd., NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

As Good as Ever

The delicious pre-war style of Milkmaid Café au Lait is ensured again to-day with the removal of all restrictions. The choicest and purest of ingredients are available to make it the coffee that for delicate fragrance and flavour has no equal except in Paris. Made in a moment, it is most economical—no milk or sugar required.

CAFÉ AU LAIT

"MILKMAID" BRAND

Leaves no "grounds" for complaint.

If any difficulty in obtaining, write direct to—

NESTLÉ'S (Advt. Dept.), 6-8, Eastcheap, E.C. 3.

Sold Everywhere Cash Prices 11d. and 1/9d. per tin.

OFFICERS' Marching Boot 19/- pair

This is an unrivalled offer, for these Boots were sold for 45/- pair during the War.

In Black or Tan, with double soles. They are guaranteed all leather and waterproof, and as a sound wearing medium-weight boot you cannot get a better at double the price

Sizes 6 to 11 19/- pair.
Size 12 - - 1/- extra.
Postage 1/- extra.

Send to-day, and if you are not perfectly satisfied we will refund your money immediately.

Also write for profusely illustrated Catalogue No. 61, it gives our complete range of Ladies', Men's and Children's Boots.

Cut this out for reference

John Needham
ALL LEATHER WORKS
98 Sparkenhoe St. LEICESTER

A WONDERFUL OFFER.

UNIQUE XMAS OFFER from RAMONT, Ltd.

To introduce our large purchase of Beaver, MOHAIR and All-Wool TARTAN CLOTH We make a Xmas gift offer of a beautiful

DOLL'S PRAM COVER

and made in the above cloths measuring 14 in. × 8 in. Send P.O. for **1/6**

This price will be refunded if an order is placed for any of the following goods which are made in our works:—

PRAM COVERS 27 in. × 35 in. **12/6** Worth Double.
SMALL RUGS 54 in. × 36 in. **20/-** Worth 2 Gns.
LARGE RUGS 54 in. × 70 in. **40/-** Worth 4 Gns.

Seven famous Tartans in all wool Cloth that cost 21/- per yard to make, the lining being Rich Beaver Mohair, like plush that cost 28/- per yard to make.

WE MAKE THIS AMAZING OFFER OF A DOLL'S PRAM COVER IN ORDER TO GIVE READERS AN OPPORTUNITY OF TESTING THE WONDERFUL VALUE.

The Doll's pram cover measures 14 in. × 8 in., is made of all Wool Tartan cloth and lined with Mohair-like Plush and is an exact model of larger articles. It is beautifully made and will make a charming and inexpensive Xmas gift to any little girl.

Write now. Send P.O. for 1/6 only.

If you do not desire the Doll's Pram Cover we will send a small pattern of each cloth on request. Lustrous Beaver Mohair, 54 in. wide; may be ordered by the yard. It cost to make 28/- we sell it at 8/-. You could not have anything finer for hangings, mantel covers, etc.

We pay carriage. Money returned if dissatisfied. This is the greatest offer of the 1921 Xmas Season.

The Made to measure House

Ramont Ltd

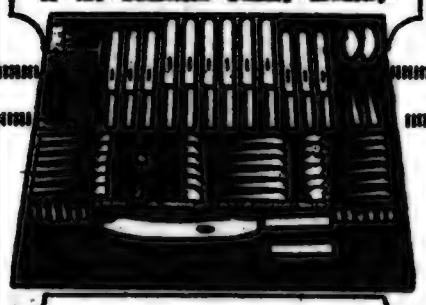
(Dept. P.C.8), Finsbury Pavement House, E.C.2

In view of the Xmas rush and in order to save time urgent orders may be sent direct to our new Northern Factory.

RAMONT Ltd., Dept. P.C.8
27, Robert Street, Cheetham, Manchester.

GRAVES
SHEFFIELD
STAINLESS CUTLERY

The finest Cutlery Value in the World, and undeniably the greatest achievement in the whole history of the Sheffield Cutlery Industry



THE GRAVES SERVICE OF STAINLESS CUTLERY

and superfine Table Plate is of unrivalled excellence & by far the most attractive Stainless Cutlery Offer ever made.

7/6 with order

The KNIVES are of genuine 'Enterprise' Brand Stainless Steel, fitted with handles of beautifully grained Ivorette, the most perfect substitute for African Ivory. Carver blade of genuine 'Enterprise' Brand Stainless Steel, 9in. long, scimitar shaped. Carving Fork fitted with adjustable hand-guard.

Forks & Spoons are manufactured from Colombian Silver, a special amalgam of metals produced exclusively for our works and unobtainable from any other source. This beautiful metal bears a bright lustrous polish indistinguishable from sterling silver, wears white all through. Lasts a lifetime

WE DELIVER the Graves Stainless Service of Cutlery and Superfine Table Plate, carriage paid to approved orders, on receipt of 7/6 with order. Balance in 11 monthly payments of 7/6 if you are entirely satisfied with the Service after examination. Money back, in full, if at all disappointed.

THE GRAVES SERVICE COMPRISES:

1 Pair Genuine 'Enterprise' Brand Stainless Steel CARVERS, 9-inch Curved Blade, handsome Ivorette handles, securely fitted.

6 Table Knives	6 Dessert Spns	1 Salt Spoon
6 Table Forks	6 Tea Spoons	1 Sugar Spoon
6 Dessert Knvs	6 Egg Spoons	1pr " Tongs
6 Dessert Frks	2 Table Spns.	1 Jam Spoon

Price **90/-** without case.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE. Our handsomely illustrated catalogue of finest ex Sheffield Cutlery (including Stainless spotless), Silver Plate Case goods, etc., will be sent per return to your address on receipt of a post card. Easy Terms.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd., SHEFFIELD.

A Man's Blanket Cloth Coat for 20/-

The success we met with in advertising our loose-fitting Raglan Overcoats has prompted us to obtain a further supply. These coats are splendidly tailored-made in warm all-wool French Blanket Cloth with side or square pockets, plain or gauntlet cuffs, all seams are bound with tape to prevent pulling out. Supplied in many shades of greys and browns in sizes 34 to 42.

A Belted Model Coat.

This fashionable Belted Coat is a new addition to the Raglan series, and is priced at the same low figure of 20/-, and made on the same generous lines.

Send Your Order Now

giving full measurements, colour, also if belted or loose-fitting and mention style of pockets required. Your satisfaction is fully guaranteed, for if you do not like your purchase return the coat and your money will be refunded in full.

TRADE ENQUIRIES INVITED.

J. W. Foster & Co.

(Dept. J.B.),

Briggate and Queen's Arcade, LEEDS.

A GREAT SHEET BARGAIN

10,000 pairs for immediate clearance.

SUPER QUALITY UNBLEACHED TWILLED SHEETS (UNHEMMED)

made from the best wearing yarn, pure finish. They will come as white as snow. The quality of these sheets will give you the service you have the right to expect.

Size.	Weight.	Per pair.	For 2 pairs.
66 x 86 ins.	3½ lbs.	9/6	18/-
70 x 90 ins.	4 lbs.	10/6	20/6
70 x 108 ins.	4½ lbs.	12/6	24/-

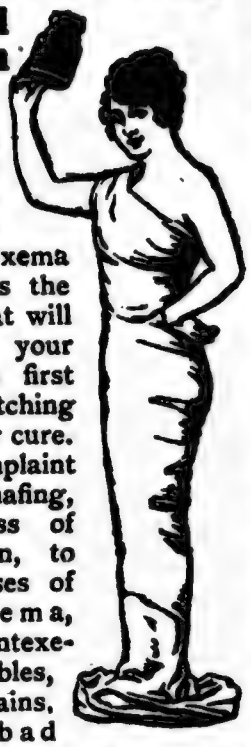
THE BEST SHEET VALUE EVER OFFERED.

Cash with order. Carriage paid. Money returned if they do not give satisfaction.

THE FALCON MANUFACTURING CO (Dept S), 19 & 23, Bridgewater St., Deansgate, MANCHESTER.

Start To-day

and get rid of your skin Trouble.



As water puts out fire, so Antexema conquers skin illness. Get Antexema to-day, as it is the one remedy that will for ever end your trouble. The first touch stops all itching and starts your cure. Every skin complaint from rashes, chafing, and tenderness of young children, to the worst cases of obstinate eczema, are cured by Antexema. Scalp troubles, chaps, chilblains, bad legs, bad hands, barber's rash, face spots, and every other sore, irritated or blotchy skin condition, quickly yields to Antexema, which is non-greasy and invisible on the skin.

Get Antexema to-day.

All chemists and stores, also Boots', Parke's, Taylor's Drug Co., Timothy White's, and Lewis and Burrows, supply Antexema at 3/- and 1/9, the larger size being the more economical; or direct post free, 3/- and 1/6 from Antexema Castle Laboratory, London, N.W.1. Also in India, Australasia, Canada, Africa, and Europe.

ANOTHER

COAL SENSATION

	Our Price per ton	Elsewhere charged at
Bright House Coal	49/-	63/-
House Stove Coal	46/-	58/-
Hard Steam Coal	45/-	51/-
House Nutty Slack	36/-	45/-
House Anthracite Cobbles	60/-	90/-

QUALITY GUARANTEED.

In 3 Ton lots delivered free in two-hundredweight sacks within a radius of 6 miles of King's Cross Station.

Deliveries beyond the 6 mile radius charged 1/- per Ton per mile extra.

If one-hundredweight sacks required, an extra charge of 1/- per ton is made.

One Ton Deliveries Charged 6d. per Ton More.

SECURE YOUR WINTER SUPPLIES by sending order and cash to

DIRECT FISH SUPPLIES, LTD.

Capital £2,000,000.

COAL DEPARTMENT,

33, Gordon Square, London, W.C.1

Telephones: Museum 4925, 4926, 5614.

Special Quotations for Truckloads to Anywhere.

Already Thousands of Customers.

Heaps of Testimonials.

COAL RING BROKEN

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies should be forwarded in the first instance. For a reply by post on personal subjects, a twopenny stamped envelope must be enclosed.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C. 2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL OR LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial or Legal Editor, and must be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full name and address should be given.*

"MERRY CHRISTMAS" (Nottingham).—Your suggestion for augmenting our "Greatest of These——" Fund shall be carefully considered. Meanwhile, we shall be grateful for any special Christmas gifts which generous readers may care to send along.

"ONE WHO KNOWS."—"I would like you to publish an article upon Post Office economics." So we would if we could see any to make a song about.

W. G. (Salisbury).—"Wishing you and the staff the compliments of the season." We are deeply grateful and staff awfully bucked.

"NAPOO" and MANY OTHERS continue to send us the recent panel from our front cover, "Girls Flogged in State Schools by Horatio Bottomley." There's enough humour in our readers to stock the Christmas pantomimes till the end of the century.

"ENGLISHMAN" (Bristol).—"Are all our statesmen devoid of guts?" That is a delicate anatomical speculation that we have no means of pursuing.

I. G. (Dorset Street, W.).—So your little boy, asked what "Oratorio" meant, said it was "Mr. Bottomley's Christian name." Wish mother had thought of it.

J. L. (Kilbirnie).—During the war the King, by Royal Proclamation, assumed the surname of Windsor for himself and his family. So now you know.

"MINER'S WIFE" (Kirkcaldy).—Evidently there are still two sides to the question of miners' wages; which proves the truth of John Bright's dictum that "nothing is ever settled till it is settled right."

W. H. S. (Westminster, S.W.).—"I hope you are very well in all respects." No present cause for anxiety unless we slip up on anything.

C. H. P. (Lincoln).—So you think that ex-Archdeacon Wakeford's appeal to the King is timely "now that things are so satisfactory with Princess Mary's betrothal." We call that a nice lady-like view of the matter.

"COMPETITOR" (Hailsham).—"I am glad you are still unbeaten." Perhaps you will write and say so again in a month's time.

"COSMOPOLITAN." — We can make neither head nor tail of your screed on the Washington Conference. Does it matter?

MRS. H. M. B. (Brighton).—"There must be angels without wings hovering over you." There are, but we would have you understand that we keep them at arm's length.

W. P. (Luton).—"Thanks for your generosity to Spanish foreign legionaries at your office." And thanks for your courtesy; but it was the fact that they were *British* that enlisted our sympathy.

D. T. (Glasgow).—Afraid cannot allow you to use this journal as a medium of communication with a girl you met in London. If by any chance it had a sticky finish, we should never forgive ourselves.

H. F. (Bristol).—"There was a time when the sexes were unequal; that has gone." You needn't rub it in.

D. G. B. (London).—Certainly no train has ever passed through the Channel Tunnel—for the simple reason that it has not yet been built. Trust you don't snore all the time.

J. J. (Hereford).—Much interested in the leaflet on "England's Present Plight," but you needn't have troubled to underline every other word. We are wonderfully quick.

"NAMELESS LASSIE."—We understand and sympathise. You may rely upon it that there will be no slackening in our effort to improve the lot of the unwanted child.

"TRUE BRITON."—"I shall become a costumer of JOHN BULL to see if you have any reply to this." But don't you think we're nice and dressy as we are?

"STUDENT" (Peterborough).—If you like to stop copying out the Bible for us till after Christmas we shall not take it as a slight. Just please yourself.

"LOVER OF ANIMALS."—We agree that a great deal of cruelty seems inseparable from hunting. It is a "sport" which has never appealed to us.

J. J. B. (Barrow-in-Furness).—We are inclined to agree that the language difficulty is at the root of a good deal of international misunderstanding. One of these days we intend to pen a brilliant discourse upon the subject.

W. H. (Cumberland).—It is not at all polite of you to wonder whether the people who differ from you "ever went to school." Perhaps it's because they did.

C. M. B. (London, W.).—"Real English folks will never ruin their country." Since reading your optimistic letter we have picked up wo derfully.

H. M. (Southampton).—"Why are animals nearly always placed in the hands of the scum of humanity?" As the owner of quite a number, we deny the allegation and defy the allegator.

REV. C. H. M. (Parson's Green, S.W.).—Your experience reminds us of the Mail Order swindlers who for 2s. 6d. offered advice on "How to make a good impression," the answer being, "Sit in a pan of dough." Ours is a wicked world, ours is.

"WELL WISHER" (Norwich).—"I have been a reader of JOHN BULL since its first commencement." As a matter of fact, it has had only one.

C. H. (South Wales).—"Mr. Frank Hodges is a biggoted man." That is true; and if we may respectfully say so, we prefer your spelling to the more conventional form.

"ROLLING STONE" (Cardiff).—"I told the black boys that our good Queen did away with slavery for ever." You were a bit out in your dates, sonny, although you meant well. Actually it was in the reign of William IV.

E. A. L. (Farnham).—"May I thank you for your Open Letter to Mr. H. G. Wells?" Certainly you may, and as he didn't, it will set him a nice example.

J. T. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—"Lack of opportunity has made thousands of honest men." We must think that over during the Christmas holidays.

"FELICE."—"Sit tight." In most chairs we do.

F. G. (Manchester).—So you think Princess Mary already has more "superfluities" than she will know what to do with. Nice name for them.

"EAST COAST READER."—"What a treat it is to get hold of JOHN BULL." That's the talk!

M. D. (Hedgerley).—"Why is a German child like a certain vegetable?" We leave it to our readers, although we may as well tell them at the start that it's a rotten answer.

MRS. WM. A. WARRENER, formerly Miss Gertrude Spowage, of 78, Spring Street, Springfield, Mass., U.S.A., would be glad to hear from any relatives living in England.

E. S. (Kingston-on-Thames).—Much interested to read of the prisoner who "only did enough work to keep himself warm." We are acquainted with several of his near relations.

K. D. (R.M.S. *Kenilworth Castle*).—Thanks for your kindly letter. At the first favourable opportunity we shall revert to our unemployment scheme, which still holds the field.

A. 1 (Lancashire).—"I might tell you 'Misty Kate' is a puzzle and not half." More credit to the clever winner.

"RESIDENT" (Alexandria). — "Why should French be the official language of Egypt?" That is a delicate question, as the young lady said when asked if she remembered the Boer War.

A. G. (Havant).—"I don't care what becomes of me as long as the country ends up all right." But if it ends up it will be all wrong.

L. W. (Northwich).—Nice of you to stick up for the Germans. What did *you* do in the Great War?

"CONSTANT READER" (Bradmore).—So you were disgusted to read of "the doles paid to our Lords." But no consideration for your feelings must hinder us from telling the truth.

R. S. (Chadwell Heath).—"I am a great believer in the practical." Like the old lady who presented the young couple with a perambulator as a wedding present.

O. M. R. (East Molesey).—Sorry cannot publish your anecdotes, which, if we may say so, are not quite the thing for a family journal. One has to be so careful, hasn't one?

I. P. (Finsbury, E.C.).—We also were greatly amused over the newspaper placard by which, as you say, you were "tickled to death." It is much to be thankful for that we are both so nice and bright.

MR. RICHARD A. FROST (9, Wellington Rd., Charlton, S.E.), the winner of the First Prize of £1,000 in "Bullets" Competition No. 430, is naturally elated with his success, and advises other competitors to go "right in" and emulate his example. He assigns his triumph to perseverance that refused to be discouraged.

MRS. F. L. P. (Suffolk).—It would take too long to give you all the reasons "why men take to drink." You remember the excuse of the man who said it was the "shortest way out of Clapham"?

"ANTI-HUN" (Folkestone).—"I do not trust old Wait-and-See." Bit rude, aren't you?

R. W. H. (Rusholme).—Sorry to hear of the woman who was sent away from the Home of Rest because she would not eat her food. Was it smelly?

R. W. (Manchester).—If you can tell us anything about the maltreatment of patients in pauper asylums it shall have our close attention, and you may rely that your confidence will be strictly observed.

A. J. C. (Nanterre-le-Seine).—Glad to know that your letter, if a trifle critical, was "written in an amiable mood." We should hate you to be really cross with us.

A. W. B. (Leicester).—"Wipe poverty out." We will do our best. Can we have till Easter?

R. C. (Dundee).—"It breaks the heart to live on hope and seem to be forgotten." That is the bitter cry of many an ex-Service man in these hard times.

W. P. (Salford).—We note a friend of yours has written a poem entitled "Why Did Women Marry When the War Began?" Please don't forward it to us unless we send a special messenger in an aeroplane.

L. J. P. (Walthamstow).—It is grossly unfair that dependent mothers should be excluded from the scope of the Government Unemployment Scheme. That is the worst of these hand-to-mouth remedies.

"SWEEPSTAKE" (Salop). — Strictly speaking, only members of the Calcutta Club can obtain tickets for the Calcutta Derby Sweep; but if you are acquainted with any banker, stockbroker, or merchant with a Calcutta agency, he could probably obtain one for you.

"FAIR PLAY" (Liverpool).—We agree that it is wrong for employers of labour to engage women who "do not depend for their livelihood upon what they earn." Besides, they are apt to be so cocky.

J. B. (Hull).—"Trade Unions are more of a hindrance than a help to the workers." *You* said it.

W. L. (Reading).—We are not quite sure what you mean by the "gulph" between Capital and Labour; but we don't like the look of it anyway.

W. P. (Colchester).—You seem to be keeping a stout heart in your pain and trouble. Accept our warm sympathy.

"ELANOR" (Hastings).—We note your objection to our phrase "cast-iron guarantees" in relation to naval matters, and are prepared to take your word for it that steel would be a lot stronger.

A. W. R. (Paddington, W.).—"I am writing as I have experienced affairs for a number of years." If you mean love affairs, we must respectfully decline all discussion.

"TAR JOHN."—We have no reason to suppose, as you darkly hint, that it was the Hammersmith Broadway which was referred to in the Scriptures as "leading to destruction." What on earth *do* you mean?

H. W. (Bexley Heath).—The sentence was a heavy one, but the girl might have got off more lightly if she had not tried to stab the prison matron. You will admit that the attempt to gouge out the eye of this official with a hatpin was not quite the thing.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

Once read—always read—SUNDAY ILLUSTRATED.

——— and Wincarnis gives new vitality to those who are **Run-down** because ———

Wincarnis is a Tonic, a Restorative, a Blood-maker and a Nerve Food—all combined in one rich, delicious, health-giving preparation.

As a Tonic it "tones up" the whole system. As a Restorative it restores lost vitality. As a Blood-maker it enriches and re-vitalises the blood; and as a Nerve Food it promotes new nerve force.

That is why over 10,000 doctors recommend Wincarnis.

If you are Weak, or Anæmic, or Nervous, or Run-down—begin taking Wincarnis to-day.

But be sure you get Wincarnis —*shun substitutes.*

All Wine Merchants and licensed Chemists and Grocers sell Wincarnis. Try just one bottle.

Small Size, 3/3. ——— Large Size, 6/-.

WINCARNIS

The Wine of Life.

A real Bargain for Men

John Noble's offer this up-to-date Overcoat for 30/- Carriage Paid

Money never commanded such value!

Another sensational Bargain from the House with 50 years reputation for real value.

John Noble's have succeeded in securing a quantity of cloth sufficient for 2,500 of these sylish Coats. The cloth is a dark Oxford Grey heavy overcoating that will wear well and looks very gentlemanly. Every coat is cut by experts in the popular single-breasted Chesterfield style and slightly shaped waist, as now worn, and has outside breast pocket and raised cuffs. Lined through with good quality Black lining and sleeves are lined Glissade. Stock sizes to fit: 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 or 40 chest measurement over waistcoat. Give size when ordering. Don't hesitate. Order NOW.

John Noble's price, 30/- Worth 60/-

PATTERNS SENT POST FREE.

PLEASE REMEMBER that this offer has only been made possible by John Noble's having purchased a stock of cloths at a ridiculously low price from a manufacturer forced to realise. Cash refunded at once if not fully satisfied.

FREE 68-page Catalogue FREE. Send to-day for a copy of John Noble's Bargain Catalogue.

Send to John Noble's.

JOHN NOBLE, Ltd.

Brook Street Mills (Dept. 55), MANCHESTER.

30/- Carriage Paid

Give him this for Xmas

The "Alpha" No. 2 Portable Trouser Press and Suit Hanger perfectly creases and stretches trousers, and leaves suit wrinkle-free. Made of Hard Wood and spring steel, it weighs 20 oz., and packs into 2x2x21½ in. British throughout.

Post free 8/6 in U.K.

"Alpha" No. 2 De-Luxe. Polished Walnut Slats, Extra-power Nickelled Springs & Fittings. Hangs on bar or hook.	15/6 Post Free in U.K.

Cross Cheque or P.O. "London Joint City & Midland Bank Ltd."

MAY & CO. (Dept. 41), 2, Tudor Street, London, E.C.4.

ASTHMA

If you are a sufferer, write at once, enclosing no remittance, for

3 WEEKS' TRIAL FREE

of the world's greatest remedy VIVAMOL, with full particulars of how you may be cured. This trial treatment will be sent FREE, conditional on return of the Inhaler if you do not wish to pay for same. Fill in and post the coupon below.

To VIVAMOL, LTD. (Dept. J.B 1), 111-119, Great Portland St., London, W.1.

Please send your treatment on the conditions named.

Name.....

Address.....

A Splendid Offer by Riley's

FOR a small first payment of 15/- Riley's of Accrington will send their most popular size "HOME" BILLIARD TABLE (6 ft. 4 in.) Cash price £11 - 10s. carriage paid to any address within one mile of a railway station in the United Kingdom. The balance you pay in 17 monthly instalments whilst you are using the table. In addition they will allow you SEVEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL.

Afterwards, if you are not thoroughly satisfied you may return the table to Riley's.

There are various sizes—prices in proportion—and every table fits conveniently on an ordinary dining table—there is one to fit on yours.

RILEY'S "COMBINE" BILLIARD AND DINING TABLES supplied from £27 - 10, or can be purchased by 13 or 20 monthly equal payments.

Write to-day for Price List.

The magnificent "Riley" Full-size Tables are always in stock. Repairs executed and all Billiard Accessories supplied. Write for prices.

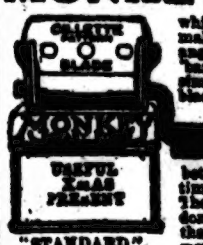
E. J. RILEY, LTD., Duke Works, ACCRINGTON.

and 147, Aldersgate St., London, E.C.

Don't buy Blades

Save the money and get more shaving comfort—cleaner, closer—easier shaves for many months with *each* blade you have. Buy the

MONKEY STROP



"STANDARD" 5/6
"DE LUXE" With Nickel-Plated Case 7/6
Both Post Free U.K.

which strops both sides of *any* make of blade, at the *correct* angle, giving the keen, true "barbers' edge in a few seconds by simply turning the handle. One blade lasts 9-12 months—always keen. Our improved model is perfect—the most efficient accessory strop of all. Its price is soon saved, and you enjoy better, cleaner shaving all the time. Get one to-day. Try it. There is no risk at all, as if you don't agree after 7 days' *trial* that the Monkey Strop is a wonderful money and trouble saver—the very thing every safety razor wants and it back and have your money returned in full. *No more blades used.* If your *Dealer* cannot supply, mention his name and send direct to manufacturers.

DOUGLAS KIRBY & Co. (Dept. B.), Gloucester.

Six books every man can read with profit

(SENT ON APPROVAL).

ORDER by No. USE COUPON BELOW—SEND NO MONEY.

1 "WILL POWER AND WORK."—By JULES PAYOT (Just Published). Stimulating talks dealing with the development of that practical energy which makes for real success in life. It will make a strong appeal to everyone who wishes to increase his mental efficiency and power of accomplishment. 412 pages. Cloth bound **8/6**

2 THE EDUCATION OF THE WILL.—By JULES PAYOT. This wonderful book tells you how to generate mind-power, how to overcome habits of carelessness, laziness, etc., how to build up energetic habits in their place, how to take advantage of your good impulses and defeat your bad ones, and how to develop brain, will, and character **8/6**

3 25,000 USEFUL PHRASES.—By GRENVILLE KLEISER. A practical Handbook of pertinent expressions, striking similes, literary, commercial, conversational, and oratorical terms, for the embellishment of speech and literature. Cloth ... **7/6**

4 GREAT SPEECHES AND HOW TO MAKE THEM.—By GRENVILLE KLEISER. This work aims to set forth, not only the sources of the power exercised by famous masters of oratory, but to point out methods by which young men may acquire and develop the art. Cloth **6/6**

5 INSPIRATION AND IDEALS. By GRENVILLE KLEISER. A book that shows how to start every day right. It contains a brief and pithy essay for each morning in the year and its pages are brimful of homely wisdom, packed with the logic of experience, and rich in stimulating suggestion. Cloth **5/6**

6 HOW TO BUILD MENTAL POWER.—By GRENVILLE KLEISER. Here is a big new volume, wholly different from any other you have ever read. It solves the most important problem mankind faces; how to become mentally efficient so as to meet the demands of modern business and social life. It is a fascinating home study course in 21 easy-to-read chapters, bound in one volume. It offers you the most effective system for developing the mental powers essential to success—will power, brain power, judgment, concentration, memory, etc. 600 pages **21/-**

FUNK & WAGNALLS CO., 134, Salisbury Square, LONDON, E.C. 4.

To Funk & Wagnalls Co., 134, Salisbury Square, E.C.4. **FREE** INSPECTION COUPON.

Please forward on three days' approval the books from your list in JOHN BULL, numbered as follows .....

If I decide to keep them, I will, within five days, send first remittance.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

J.B.

NEXT WEEK "BULLETS" FIRST PRIZE WILL BE INCREASED TO £500.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. This example will guide you: Example:—FAIR FIGHT. Bullet:—FOR SEAT IN PARLIAMENT. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 433.

SETTLING IRELAND	NO FLAPPER	WHAT WIFE WANTS	ARMY AND NAVY
MY CHRISTMAS PRESENT	AN ILL WIND	WHEN PLAY'S OVER	PAID FOR LATER
FILLING THE STOCKING	RATED HIGHLY	CHILLY RECEPTION	TAKES THE BISCUIT
FAMILY GATHERING	ALL AT ONCE	VOICE OF REASON	PILING IT ON
POWDER AND PAINT	POOR HOUSE	NEVER WELCOME	A GOOD DOUBLE
FORGETTING HIMSELF	COME AND GO	LEAVES US COLD	BACK TO WALL
DRAWS THE PUBLIC	CLEVER GIRL	IN THE CLOUDS	MAKING THINGS HOT
MAKING A MISTAKE	DIRTY WORK	THE BOTTOM RUNG	TREAT TO FIND

Closing Date, Thursday, December 22nd.

No.____
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet

(433) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.

Signed____
Address____

☞ If unable to secure extra coupons you can write your "Bullets" on plain paper.

Closing Date, Thursday, December 22nd.

No.____
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet

(433) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.

Signed____
Address____

Envelopes should be marked "Bullets" No. 433, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Closing Date, Thursday, December 22nd.

No.____
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet

(433) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.

Signed____
Address____

Closing Date, Thursday, December 22nd.

No.____
Example____
Bullet
Example____
Bullet

(433) P.O. No.____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.

Signed____
Address____

SELECTION OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 434.

NEW YEAR WISH—PUT AND TAKE—AFTER CHRISTMAS—THE NEW WORLD—COUNTRY YOKEL—RED HOT—JUDGE AND JURY—FLAPPER'S PURSE—PLENTY—TELLING THE WIFE—SO SIMPLE—WHEN RUSH BEGINS—NAVY CUT—A NICE BIRD—DANGEROUS COMBINATION—IN LONDON TOWN—COINING MONEY—HE OR SHE—LITTLE AND GOOD—BRITAIN'S WATCHDOG.

These examples can be made use of on the Coupons above and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, JANUARY 5th.** All Coupons so used **MUST** be marked clearly with the number **434** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these Coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. **434**, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such Coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two Examples for Competition No. 433.

A complete list of 100 Turkey Winners in "Bullets" Competition 431 will be sent on receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope.

Results of 431st 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

Mr. J. H. LAGAR,
899, Stratford Road, Birmingham.
Example:—CLEVER CHAP.
Bullet:—DONS WIG BEFORE LIBELLING.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

Mr. ROBERT LOWRY,
49, Heathwood Gardens, Charlton, S.E.7.
Example:—TOP AND BOTTOM.
Bullet:—PARK LANE—PARK SEAT.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

Mr. WALTER ADDISON,
34, Leyton Park Road, Leyton, E.10.
Example:—READY FOR CHRISTMAS.
Bullet:—PESSIMIST'S SOCK—OPTIMIST'S STOCKING.

10 Prizes of £5 each:

Mr. J. R. EVANS, 4, Manvers Place, Bath, Som.: CLEVER CHAP—SOLD FORD A CAR.
Mr. W. EARNSHAW, 28, High Street, Preston, Lancs.: SELECT FEW—CATCHWORDS—THEN QUALIFIED CANDIDATE.
Mr. W. A. HIGGINS, 3, Artesian Road, Bayswater, W.2: A MYSTERY—RETIRED COLONEL'S VIEWS SELDOM.
Mr. R. HELME, 12, Cornwall Road, St. Albans: TOP AND BOTTOM—BOLSHEVIST'S AIM AND END.
Mr. W. CAREY, 28, Shuttleworth Street, Earby, Lancs: FUNNY THING THAT—GOOD STORY'S GENERALLY WHISPERED.
Mr. H. DILLEY, 323, Stockport Road, Longsight, Manchester: CLEVER CHAP—MAKES IT "HIS BUSINESS."
Mr. BOOTH, 1, Lansdowne Rd., Crumpsall, Manchester: GETTING THE BIRD—WILL ARMIES FOLLOW NAVIES?
Mr. C. CAMPBELL, 25, ClarendonGdns., Maida Hill, W.: HARD TO GRASP—NATION'S WHEEL DURING STORM.
Mr. W. GETHING, "Rawdon," Church Crookham, Hants: TOP AND BOTTOM—JUSTICE SHOULDN'T DISCRIMINATE BETWEEN.
Mr. C. S. SHUTTLEWORTH, 36, Melford Rd., Sudbury, Suffolk: MUCH TOO SLOW—CHANCELLOR'S WITS—TAXES PROOF.

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each:

Mr. E. GAUNT, 70, Ward St., Coseley, nr. Bilston, Staffs: THE WRONG STUFF—DELIVERED AFTER RAPPING TABLE.
Mr. W. G. FARNDON, 91, Grosvenor Rd., Hanwell: WILLING HORSE—TAXPAYER WITH "ECONOMY UP."
Mr. J. E. RUSSELL, 127, Lea Rd., Wolverhampton: LIKE MAGIC—GERMANS STARTED "GROWING WINGS."
Mr. A. ABEL, 83, Grove Park, Camberwell, S.E.5: HIGHLY INFLAMMABLE—NOTHING—FATHER LIGHTING FIRE.
Mr. E. MERRISON, Rose Cottage, Crumpsall, M/c: MODEST SALARY—MAKES ILLNESS A DISASTER.
Mr. J. JAMES, 14, Evans St., Kenfig Hill, nr. Bridgend, Glam.: HARD TO GRASP—MUCH? IF HANDS "UNSKILLED."
Mr. C. W. PALMER, 28, Queen Street, Godalming: BIT TOO THIN—NAVAL POWER—BY PERMISSION.
Mr. W. J. BISHOP, 64, Swindon Rd., Edgbaston: WIFE AND KIDS—COMPRISE "SILENCER" AND "EXHAUST."
Mr. C. H. KERRY, Cottage, Sandland Rd., Hanwell: SELECT FEW—GOVERN—REMAINDER MAY CRITICISE.
Mr. W. ATTENBOROUGH, 1, Halifax Sq., Nottingham: WILLING HORSE—FINDS "STABLE" OCCUPIED NOW.

BULLETS RULES

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. All four coupons may be used, and a postal order enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of, which must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.
4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned.
5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

WHY PAY FIRE INSURANCE PREMIUMS ?

THE

JOHN BULL

GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published from time to time.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Insurer's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ...	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his or her employment, up to...	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 15 weeks	£1 per week

ORDER FORM.
To be Retained by Newsagent.

To .....
Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice.

Signed .....

Address .....

December 17, 1921.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM.
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

..... Newsagent, of

..... and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address .....

December 17, 1921. .....

To remain qualified for the benefits readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

THE BIGGEST ONE-WEEK FOOTBALL PRIZE

£1,000 MUST BE WON £1,000

ONLY TEN RESULTS OR NEXT BEST COUPON

THE sum of £1,000 will be paid to the sender of a coupon containing the correct results of the 10 matches given. If 10 correct results are not given, the £1,000 will be awarded to the sender of the most correct results, so that in any event the £1,000 **MUST BE WON.** We advise competitors to make a careful study of football form before filling in their coupons. **Scottish and Irish readers can compete.** Competitors may send in as many coupons as they like.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from papers announcing this competition. Coupons must be completely filled in with ink in ordinary handwriting (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed) and in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £1,000 (one thousand pounds) will be paid to the competitor sending a coupon containing the correct results of all the matches played to a finish. If no competitor succeeds in giving all the correct results, the sum of £1,000 will be paid to the competitor sending a coupon with the most correct results. In the event of a tie or ties, the prize to be won will be equally divided amongst the most successful competitors. No competitor can receive more than one share of the £1,000. Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded.

HOW TO FILL UP YOUR COUPONS

If you think the "Home" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Home"; if you think the "Away" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Away"; if you think the result will be a draw, place a X in the column headed "Draw." **Only one X must be entered for each match.** Coupons must be completely filled up in ink.

(3) Ten crosses in all must be marked on each coupon, one for each match. Coupons marked otherwise will be disqualified.

(4) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss, delay or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into, nor will interviews be granted.

(5) An altered or mutilated coupon will be disqualified. Any coupon received later than Wednesday, Dec. 21st, will be disqualified. Employees of the papers conducting this competition are not eligible to compete.

(6) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Run in conjunction with "Sunday Illustrated," "Boy's Pictorial" and "Sunday Sports Telegram."

PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS. Cut out Coupon neatly and address all entries as follows: Football Competition No. 16, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other Competitions.

COMPETITORS MAY SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS THEY LIKE.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—In our last issue we published a paragraph with reference to the Football Competition in the "Sunday Chronicle," "Illustrated Sunday Herald," and allied papers, stating that because the successful solutions were so numerous the competition was cancelled. We regret having given publicity to this statement and wish to make it clear that, as, owing to fog, two matches out of the four upon which the competition was based, were abandoned, the proprietors at once decided to double the prize to £2,000 the following week. We gladly withdraw any imputation which our paragraph may have cast on the bona fides of our contemporaries.

RESULT OF FOOTBALL COMPETITION No. 14 APPEARS ON PAGE 5.

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

Please Note the Closing Date has been altered to WEDNESDAY, December 21st.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th.

HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	HOME	AWAY	DRAW
Chelsea	v.	Tottenham H.			
Everton	v.	Manchester C.			
Manchester U.	v.	Liverpool			
Arsenal	v.	Oldham A.			
Bristol City	v.	Notts Forest			
Clapton Orient	v.	Fulham			
Derby County	v.	West Ham U.			
Southend U.	v.	Plymouth A.			
Merthyr Town	v.	Portsmouth			
Brentford	v.	Bristol Rovers			

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page, and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

(16) SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

PRICE 2/9

THE "STAR" *Darning a pleasure!*

DARNING MACHINE

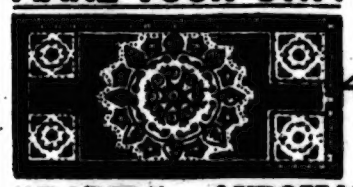
Like a small loom—mends anything from Underwear to Lace Curtains.

With this wonderful hand darning machine you can do the work of an hour in a few minutes. Perfectly even darn is smoothly woven right into fabric, leaving no lumps. The greatest Boon to the busy housewife ever invented. Speedily puts fresh heel or toe in stocking and neatly repairs table-linen, curtains, fine silk goods, etc. The "Star" Darning Machine is complete in itself, and is *NOT* a sewing-machine attachment. It is so very simple to work that by its aid even a child can darn quicker, neater and better than an expert by hand alone.

MAKES DARNING A PLEASANT RECREATION, saving endless time, eye-strain and labour. Will last a lifetime, being strong, and well made of high-grade metal throughout. Supplied in neat box with easy illustrated directions. Usual price 2/6, Reduced to 2/9 (postage 3d. extra). Send now 3/- P.O. to

E.J.R. CO. (Dept. J.B.) 682, Holloway Road, London, N.19.

MAKE YOUR OWN WOOL & CLOTH RUGS



PRICE 2/9

A FASCINATING HOBBY WITH BIG PROFITS.

The home manufacture of rugs and mats is a favourite hobby, yielding a handsome return for the little time and trouble involved. There is always great satisfaction in seeing the work of one's hands develop into a thing of beauty for the embellishment of one's home. What is a nicer pastime than sitting by the fireside turning old cloth, wool, etc., into beautiful rugs, etc., especially when a mat can be **STARTED AND FINISHED THE SAME EVENING** by using our

"RAPID" AUTOMATIC RUG-MAKING MACHINE.

Takes any thickness of wool or strips of old clothes, uniforms, discarded stockings, jumpers, etc.—makes hard-wearing hearthrugs. These serviceable rugs easily sell at 2/- to 30/- each, being much more durable than ordinary manufactured ones. Our Rug-Maker is not a prodder, but a **SPEEDY AUTOMATIC MACHINE,** which makes and measures its own stitches, making a fluffy, even-surfaced mat complete in **AN HOUR.** Made of highly-polished hard wood with strong nickel-plated fittings; this Rug-Maker is an improvement over all others, and will last a life-time. Sent by return with very easy directions, price 2/9 (postage 3d. extra). Send now 3/- Postal Order to E.J.R. CO. (Dept. J.B.) 682, HOLLOWAY ROAD, LONDON, N.19.

THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE.—We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in JOHN BULL, *i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or of first instalment, and if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through any trade advertisement in our columns, we will refund the purchase money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to* JOHN BULL, *Advertisement Department, 57, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

Make your feet feel young.

Light—Durable—Resilient.

SUSSEX

RUBBER SOLES & HEELS

Sold at all Shoe Shops.

Manufacturers: SUSSEX RUBBER CO., London, E. (Makers of the Famous "Waterloo" Heels & Tips).

DON'T MISS QUEERIES???

£50 FIRST PRIZE AND OVER 300 Other Prizes.

"QUEERIES," the fascinating new competition, is now running in the "London Mail" and "Passing Show." *ALL YOU HAVE TO DO* is to answer, in not more than nine words, one or more of the "QUEERIES" given below. The Coupon below can be used for ONE QUERY AND ONE ANSWER ONLY. *Extra attempts can be sent on plain paper.* A postal order at the rate of 6d. for each answer must be sent.

This example will guide you:—

Query:—What Is Your New Year Wish?
Answer:—Peace and Prosperity Everywhere.

QUEERIES FOR COMPETITION No. 8:

Will Ireland be Happy Now?
What Is Your New Year Wish?
What Makes Wife Suspicious?
Why Is Money Tight?
What Does Lloyd George Deserve?
What Is a Pantomime?
What's the Best Job Going?
What Does a Flapper Love Best?

Address your envelope to "QUEERIES" No. 8, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

No. 8 (J.B.) Closing Date, January 3rd.

YOUR ANSWER MUST CONSIST OF NOT MORE THAN NINE WORDS.

Queery .....

.....?

Answer .....

.....

.....

P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

P.O. at rate of 6d. for each answer must be sent.

EXTRA ATTEMPTS CAN BE SENT ON PLAIN PAPER.

Dyspepsia, Nerves and Sleeplessness

With Extreme Debility and loss of Weight. Remarkable cure by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

Mrs. Richardson, 303, Capworth-street, Leyton, London, E., says:—

"During the war I had a daughter in France and a son a prisoner in Turkey, and I worried myself into a terrible state of nervousness. I never had a proper night's sleep, and my days were just a long drag. I had no heart for anything, and no strength either, for I ate little, and that little I could not digest. I suffered after food of any kind, and there were frequent attacks of flatulence or wind. In fact I was in almost constant pain and I lost no less than four stone in weight. Although I tried to diet myself I got worse and worse: my friends thought I could never recover. Nothing did any good till I got Dr. Cassell's Tablets. Then within a week I felt better. First I began to sleep soundly, then the dyspepsia disappeared, and I gained strength. Finally, my nerves grew strong again, and I could say I was cured. Quite certainly it is Dr. Cassell's Tablets I have to thank for my new health."

Mrs. Richardson.

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

The Universal Home Remedy for

Nervous Breakdown, Neuritis, Indigestion, Sleeplessness, Neurasthenia, Anæmia, Palpitation, Kidney Weakness, Children's Weakness, Wasting

Specially Valuable for Nursing Mothers and During the Critical Periods of Life.

Home Price, 3/-

1/3 the smaller size.

Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world. Ask for Dr. Cassell's Tablets and refuse substitutes.

Do not be the slave of nervous fears. Banish them with Dr. Cassell's Tablets

Sole Proprietors: The Vene Drug Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester, Eng.

THE

CITY LIFE

Assurance Co., Ltd.

Head Office, 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, London, E.C.2

Assets Exceed - £1,000,000

Premium Income Exceeds £450,000

Claims Paid Exceed - £1,600,000

Advances Made Exceed £2,250,000

Established in 1897, the Company transacts every class of Life Assurance business, and enjoys a high reputation for the prompt settlement of claims.

Managing Director.

LEONARD ALDRIDGE.

CLARNICO

A Clarnico Xmas to all

A real jolly Christmas of the good old-fashioned kind, full of good things like CLARNICO CARAMELS, made from pure cane sugar and full rich cream.

CLARNICO CARAMELS are now sold in boxes which avoids handling, and make ideal Christmas gifts.

Clarnico Cream Caramels - - - 8d. ½ lb.
Clarnico Lily Caramels (with almonds) 8d. ½ lb.
Clarnico Chocolate-Lily Caramels - 10d. ½ lb.

Sold in small boxes; also loose by weight

CLARKE, NICKOLLS & COOMBS, LTD., Victoria Park, London.

CLARNICO

Mead

direct from factory and SAVE POUNDS. World's finest Table Grands, Portable Hornless and exquisitely coloured horn Mead-o-Phones to select from. Sent on 10 days' trial, carriage paid, with 52 tunes and 400 needles. Write TO-DAY for beautifully illustrated art catalogue.

MEAD CO. (Dept 667), Birmingham

GRAVES

OF SHEFFIELD

Write for patterns, post free, of Overcoats, Suits, Costumes, Fabrics, Raincoats, Mackintoshes, etc., or Catalogues of Footwear, Wool Scarfs, Drapery, Ladies' & Children's Clothing, Sheffield Cutlery, Dressing-cases and Bassocks, Tea & Dinner Services, Sideboards, Bedsteads, Sewing Machines, Cycles, Tyres, Carpets and Linos, Pottery & Appliances, etc. Grand values. EASY TERMS

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

A few specimens of the sumptuous assortment of ERAM-Khayyam Cigarettes contained in the FREE BOX.

ERAM-Khayyam Plain
A light and slender tube That holds the incense of the East
ERAM-Khayyam Cork-tipped
The rarest vintage that could grace The Banquet of the thoughts
ERAM-Khayyam Gold-tipped
The wealth and spices of the East Dissolved in dream-cloud smoke
ERAM-Khayyam Silk-tipped (Sheaves)
The perfume of the Shalimar The silk of Samarkand
ERAM-Khayyam Rose-tipped
Each tip a petal from the Rose To kiss some Rose-bud lips

AN EXCEPTIONAL FREE GIFT

WOULD you like, absolutely free of charge, a box of the world's daintiest and most wonderful Cigarettes? It contains an assortment of all brands of ERAM-Khayyam Amber Cigarettes, some tipped with real petals of Roses, some with rich and delicate purple Silk, some with finely beaten Gold, and others with Cork. Until recently ERAM-Khayyam cigarettes were only to be found in the Private [illegible] from which they were specially prepared. The only samples reaching Europe were brought by travellers who were allowed to enter the precincts of these exclusive places.

The delicious and subtle Oriental Perfume, reminiful of the

MYSTERIOUS CHARMS, VISIONS

and alluring sweetness of the romantic East revealed as the Cigarette is smoked, conveys a new meaning to the Cigarette Smoker.

In order to introduce these delightful ERAM-Khayyam Cigarettes to a wider circle of smokers we have decided to distribute

100,000 BOXES FREE

OF CIGARETTES OF UNRIVALLED "ATMOSPHERE"—SUBTLE AND ENTICING.

NEVER BEFORE has such a bold and expensive offer been made, but we know that once you have tested ERAM-Khayyam Cigarettes you will always be their staunch friend.

READ THIS.

"Dear Sirs.—I have pleasure in writing to thank you for the beautiful Presentation Cabinet of excellent Cigarettes. They certainly are delicious. — Yours truly, D.G.S."

"Dear Sirs.—Please send me fifty of your delicious Eram-Khayyam Cigarettes. The beautiful free holder which you sent me with my last Cigarettes is really charming and admired by everyone who sees it. Yrs. faithfully, J.M.B."

A SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY GIFT.

In addition to the free trial box of Cigarettes every applicant will also receive a FREE coupon for a magnificent real gold-mounted Cigarette Holder, 4½ inches in length, value 10/6.

The Genuineness of this offer is covered by the "John Bull" Guarantee.

(Free Box Once Only to Each Applicant.)

TO receive one of these beautiful free boxes post to us the Coupon below together with Postal Order for 9d. or stamps to cover cost of postage and packing, and same will be forwarded to you by return of post together with descriptive pamphlet (money gladly refunded if not satisfied and delighted).

Further supplies may be obtained from all good-class Tobacconists & Stores.

This Trade Mark appears on every box (none genuine without it) show this to your Tobacconist to ensure receiving the right brand.

FREE GIFT COUPON

TEAR OFF NOW before you forget.

Pin this coupon to a piece of paper with your name and address clearly written on same.

To L. & J. FABIAN,
ERAM Cig. Manfrs. (Dept. C.B.16)
74, New Bond St., London, W.1.
Please send me a Free Trial Box of ERAM-Khayyam Cigarettes. I enclose 9d. to cover cost of postage and packing.

Printed and Published Weekly by the Proprietors, ODHAMS PRESS Ltd., Long Acre, London, W.C. 2, England. Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper. Post Free all over the world. For sole agents Registered for transmission by Canadian Magazine Post. Agencies for the Colonies: Gordon & Gotch, Ltd., Australia and New Zealand. For South Africa: Central News Agency, Ltd. For Canada American News Co., Ltd., Gordon & Gotch, Ltd., and International News Co., Ltd. For America: International News Co., Ltd. Also on sale at W. H. Smith and Son's bookshops, at 70, Boulevard aux-Herbes, Brussels, and 44, Rue Joseph II., Ostende, and 248, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.